Heritage and Destiny

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Le Pen, Wilders and Europe's New Right bloc

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Street Power in Kiev

A new perspective on the Ukraine crisis

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Editorial

Welcome to issue 60 of *Heritage and Destiny*. As you will see this is a very European themed issue and we make no apologies for that. On May 22nd (a year to the day since Lee Rigby was slaughtered by African immigrants on a London street) Britons go to the polls to elect members to the European Parliament – as well as elect councillors to represent us at local council level.

All the nationalist/populist parties fighting the Euro elections are in favour of "Britain" leaving the EU. UKIP (which some tip to gain the largest number of votes and MEPs) will field a full slate of candidates across the UK.

The BNP (which five years ago elected two MEPs and polled almost one million votes) will stand everywhere bar Northern Ireland. However, many predict their vote along with their two MEPs will vanish and they will be lucky to poll as many votes as they did in 1999, when they first contested a European election.

The English Democrats, who will just contest the nine "English" regions, go into their third European election, but are much weaker now than in the previous two and are only able to contest this election due to the incredible generosity of their leader Robin Tilbrook, who bankrolls the party. Other tiny parties such as Liberty GB, Britain First and the various breakaways from UKIP will stand in one or maybe two regions, but probably poll even fewer votes than the English Democrats – if that's possible!

The National Front had already announced (very wisely in this editor's view) that it would not be contesting the European Elections. But due to the internal split and legal/constitutional disputes amongst the leadership, its members are unable to field a united slate of candidates at the local elections either, which is a pity.

Peter Rushton takes an in-depth look at the prospects for not only the British "nationalist" parties contesting the European election, but all the other nationalist/populist parties throughout Europe (*see pages 3-7*). He also previews nationalist prospects in the local elections (*see pages 16-17*), which are sadly maybe just as grim.

Sir Oswald Mosley (*centre*) launched his European policy with a conference at Venice in 1962 with other European nationalist leaders. He is seen here with Adolf von Thadden of the German NPD, Jean Thiriart of the Belgium-based Jeune Europe, and Giovanni Lanfre of the Italian MSI.

It's interesting that whilst all the "British" nationalist/populist parties are campaigning for us to leave the EU and either go it alone or hook up with our kith and kin in the old White commonwealth (both unrealistic in this editor's view), many nationalists on mainland Europe, including the French Front National (FN) may have had a change of heart.

To quote FN leader Marine Le Pen at a recent Brussels press conference: "With a bloc of just 150 Euro MEPs, we can control the EU." She claims that if nationalists win enough seats and then form a voting bloc, they can change EU policy on immigration and anti-white discrimination. During the last year Le Pen has been meeting with MEPs and other nationalists from a whole host of countries on forming such a "bloc" post election. However, whether this will ever happen is anybody's guess?

What younger *H&D* readers may not realize is that "the movement" has not always been so anti-Europe, or even against a "United States of Europe." After WWII Sir Oswald Mosley campaigned for "Europe a Nation", and supported a "Yes" vote to stay in the Common Market in the referendum of 1975.

However, Mosley's vision of eight to ten White Western European nations forming a united bloc to guarantee military and financial independence from both the USA and USSR, to say nothing of the then growing threat of China, was a million light years away from today's liberal/left EU, with its politically correct agenda of free movement (i.e. millions more moving to the UK) and European Court of Human Rights (where White people have no rights).

After these elections, nationalists need to take stock of where we go from here. Following UKIP's anti-Europe line will get us nowhere, even if we wanted to (which we shouldn't) as they control that ground now. Mass third world, non-white immigration into Europe is sufficient reason alone why we cannot continue to ignore the rest of a continent, of which we are racially and culturally a part. Nationalists need to show that we can retain our Britishness/Englishness and control our own destiny, whilst recognizing the necessity of our common accord with our fellow Europeans.

If you are an active Nationalist why not buy some extra copies of this issue to give out (or sell them!) at your next branch meeting – it's another great issue and should 'sell like hot cakes'! And as always we also need your regular donations – however large or small, every Dollar, Pound or even Euro counts. Please try and send in whatever you can afford. Thanks once again for your support, together we will win.

Heritage and Destiny

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Nationalism in Europe 2014

Elections to the European Parliament will be held across the 28 nations of the European Union between 22-25 May 2014. The big losers will be conservative and liberal parties. The big winners will be assorted socialist and centre-left parties, but also various groups that could be termed the dissident right, which can be broken down into three types of nationalist:

A) parties that are essentially conservative or neo-conservative in their social and economic policies, but which defy the mainstream post-1945 conservative project of European federalism;

B) parties that are radical nationalist rather than conservative, but which seek to dissociate themselves from mid-20th century nationalist traditions by avoiding anything that offends Jews, and often by explicitly endorsing Zionism and obsessively focusing on Muslims;

C) radical nationalist parties who choose not to go down the Islamo-obsessive route, and in some cases explicitly align themselves with mid-20th century fascist or national socialist traditions.

In this survey, and in our report on the European election results which will appear in *H&D* 61, we will attempt to indicate which European parties belong to which of the above categories, though as will be seen this is sometimes impossible, with several parties blurring the boundaries.

Key figures in the realignment of the European "far right" – (*left to right*) David Lasar, a Jewish member of Vienna's city council for the Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ) who organised a delegation of European nationalists to Israel; Heinz-Christian Strache, leader of the FPÖ, once seen as neo-nazi but rebranded as pro-Zionist; Geert Wilders, leader of the Dutch Party for Freedom, the best known Islamophobic politician in Europe, allied to the FPÖ and the Flemish Vlaams Belang.

Austria – Category B

The political mould in Austria is influenced by centuries of religious and dynastic wars. The country's very name derives from the notion of an eastern Germanic kingdom or empire (*Österreich*), and in modern times this was reunited in a single *Reich* for seven years from 1938 to 1945. It might surprise some readers to learn that of the three competing strands in Austrian democratic politics – conservative, socialist and liberal – it is the liberal strand which has traditionally been most in favour of pan-German unity, since conservatives were more strongly Catholic and hostile to northern German Protestantism.

Consequently after 1945, surviving Austrian national socialists and their sympathisers regrouped in the liberal Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ), which became one of Europe's most successful nationalist parties under the leadership of Jörg Haider after 1986. Haider broke away from the party in 2005 and was killed in a car accident three years later, but the FPÖ has revived and refocused on an anti-Islamic strategy.

Alongside the Flemish separatist *Vlaams Belang*, the FPÖ is a formerly radical nationalist party which has sought to reinvent itself by genuflecting to international Zionism. Though its ideological contortions might cause internal problems in the future, for the moment the FPÖ is again enjoying electoral success, winning 20.5% of last year's general election vote. They are confidently expected to repeat this success at the Euro-election, returning to their mid-1990s peak support.

The FPÖ's MEPs will be allied to the French FN and Flemish VB in the strongest nationalist bloc ever seen in the European Parliament. The rival BZÖ, which was formed by former FPÖ leader Haider in 2005 but has since adopted a more "moderate" strategy, will field a slate headed by MEP Angelika Werthmann who defected to the BZÖ from a now-defunct anti-corruption group and has been promoted to replace Jörg Haider's daughter as number one on the party's list. However the BZÖ has declined drastically since Haider's death and is likely to poll only around 2%.

Belgium – Category B

Of all the 28 countries in the European Union, Belgium is the most artificial state, combining French-speaking "Walloon" areas including the capital Brussels, an isolated enclave, entirely surrounded by Dutch-speaking Flemish. Flemish nationalists were once repressed by the Belgian state, and turned to the paramilitary and national socialist VMO. To some extent the Flemish nationalist Vlaams Blok grew out of the VMO, and was effectively banned by the Belgian courts for "racism" in 2004. The VB was reformed as the Vlaams Belang, and is now one of Europe's strongest nationalist parties – allied to the French FN despite traditional cultural divisions.

Like the FPÖ, the VB has tried to shun its national socialist antecedents, and rebranded itself as an Islamo-obsessive, pro-Zionist party. Due to the peculiarities of Belgian politics their MEPs are elected in separate electoral colleges, and the VB only competes in the Flemish section, which elects 12 of the 21 Belgian MEPs.

After the elections, one would expect the VB to ally with the French FN and the Austrian FPÖ.

In the French-speaking half of Belgium, there are racial nationalists in a Belgian version of the FN (a Walloon dominated unitarist party), but these are not electorally significant and for legal reasons might not even be able to contest this year's elections.

Bulgaria – Category C

The Ataka (Attack) party was founded by radical Bulgarian nationalist journalist Volen Siderov in 2005 and quickly achieved an electoral breakthrough. Siderov took 21.5% of first preference votes in the 2006 Bulgarian election, and although his party has failed to match this result in subsequent contests, Ataka still has two MEPs and is established as the country's fourth largest party.

Siderov's anti-NATO, pro-nationalisation stance – with his uncompromising criticisms of Zionism, international Freemasonry and his own country's gypsies – will make it difficult for Ataka to cooperate in the European Parliament with more squeamish and self-consciously "moderate" nationalist parties, although Ataka was part of the short-lived "Identity, Tradition and Sovereignty" group which briefly united European Parliamentary nationalists in 2007.

Croatia – Category B/C

Having joined the European Union in July 2013, Croatia will be taking part in Euro-elections for the first time this year. The main nationalist party is the Croatian Party of Rights, which has cordial relations with mainstream European nationalist groups such as the FN but (partly due to a history of splits) has declined in support and currently has no MPs in the Croatian Parliament. It is most unlikely to win any European seats this year.

Cyprus – Category C

An EU member since 2004, politics in Cyprus is still dominated by divisions between Turkish and Greek sections of the island. The National Popular Front (ELAM) is a Greek Cypriot nationalist party which has links to the controversial and increasingly successful Greek national socialist party Golden Dawn. ELAM polled around 1% at the most recent Cypriot parliamentary and presidential elections, and is most unlikely to be winning seats in the European Parliament, unless Cypriot politics undergoes the type of seismic transformation that boosted their sister party in Athens.

Czech Republic – Category A

Racial nationalism in the Czech Republic is confined to extra-parliamentary and sometimes illegal groups: no radical nationalist party will contest this year's Czech elections. A UKIP-style populist, anti-EU party – Dawn of Direct Democracy, often known simply as Dawn – was founded last year by a half-Japanese businessman who broke away from the main Czech conservative party. Dawn took almost 7% of the vote at last year's Czech general election and might hope to win one or two European seats this year, in which case they would logically ally with UKIP.

Denmark – Category A/B

The anti-immigration Danish People's Party (DPP) won two European seats in 2009 with 15.3% of the vote – their best result since the party's foundation in 1995. The DPP is a virulently anti-Islamic party, but not racial nationalist: effectively a more hardline version of UKIP, similar to Geert Wilders' party in Holland.

Denmark also has a Eurosceptic party with roots in leftist and green movements: the People's Movement Against the EU, which has one MEP.

Estonia – Category A/B

The newly formed Conservative People's Party of Estonia (EKRE), a merger of two earlier conservative parties, is a UKIP-style eurosceptic party, with an anti-immigration stance, but which also adopts some radical economic policies – including cooperative banks and even currency reform – which would be anathema to UKIP's neo-Thatcherites. As with many nationalist movements in countries which were formerly part of the Soviet Union, the EKRE's platform is influenced by hostility to Russian influence.

Given recent events in Ukraine, any EKRE success in this year's election could have dramatic consequences, though for now the very best they could expect would be to win one of the six Estonian MEPs.

Martin Helme, son of the EKRE leader, recently told a television interviewer that the party's immigration policy was: "If you're black, go back. As simple as that. We shouldn't allow this problem to emerge in the first place."

Finland – Category A

The Finns Party (previously known as the True Finns) – led by populist eurosceptic, Catholic convert and Millwall fan Timo Soini – has one MEP and might hope to win a second seat this year. They are allied to UKIP in the European Parliament, though Soini addressed the Conservative Party conference in 2011.

France – Category B/C

Marine Le Pen's National Front (FN) will provide the big story of this year's elections, and hopes to be the core of the largest nationalist group ever in the European Parliament. 2009 was one of the FN's weaker results, when they won only three seats after polling 6.3%. This year they should gain at least an extra ten seats, and opinion polls suggest that they could become the largest French party, overtaking both conservatives and socialists. Marine Le Pen then hopes to negotiate a broad agreement between many diverse European nationalist and eurosceptic groups, though disappointingly she seems to be focusing on an unachievable deal to unite the most moderate and Islamo-obsessive parties, while shunning traditional nationalists such as Hungary's Jobbik and the Greek Golden Dawn. Her big problem is that the FN itself (partly for reasons deeply rooted in French history and political culture) has aspects which the likes of UKIP or the Danish People's Party will forever regard as too "extreme".

France also has a UKIP-style, non-racial eurosceptic party – Arise the Republic (DLR) – but having achieved less than 2% last time, and only 2-3% in recent polls, the DLR is almost certain to win zero MEPs.

Germany – Category A

Since the decline of the Republican Party – which elected six MEPs in 1989, including party leader and Waffen-SS veteran Franz Schönhuber – no radical German nationalist party has come close to winning a European seat.

Last year the German political mould was shaken, though not quite broken, by a new eurosceptic party – Alternative for Germany (AfD) – polling 4.7% at their first general election outing and only just missing out on the threshold for election to the German Parliament.

Current polls suggest that AfD could poll around 8% this year, gaining perhaps seven MEPs, but for them even UKIP is too radical an ally.

The main radical German nationalist party – the NPD – is facing renewed state persecution, and will have no serious chance of winning seats, even if it hasn't been formally banned. Similarly the Republikaner Party no longer has any realistic chance of winning MEPs, and neither does the Islam-obsessed PRO movement.

(*above*) Marine Le Pen, now leader of the French National Front, seen here twenty years ago with Waffen-SS veteran Franz Schönhuber, leader of the German Republican Party, which then had six MEPs but is now almost defunct. (*below*) Traditional European nationalist values survive in Hungary's Jobbik, whose uniformed Hungarian Guard was banned in 2009.

Greece – Category C

The Greek national socialist party Golden Dawn provided Europe's most surprising political headlines during the past two years, rising from the furthest margins of Greek politics to poll almost 7% in two general elections in May and June 2012, as the Greek economic crisis threatened to descend into civil war, destabilising the entire European Union project.

Last year the Greek establishment moved to proscribe Golden Dawn, arresting leaders, while in a parallel move to extinguish the national socialist challenge, far left terrorists murdered two Golden Dawn activists in a drive-by shooting at the party headquarters in Athens.

Against this background of legal and terroristic repression, it will be very surprising if Golden Dawn can match their 2012 election campaigns this year, but opinion polls suggest the party could achieve between 9% and 12%, which would give them perhaps four MEPs. In previous European elections the party had never achieved more than 0.5%.

Golden Dawn MEPs would find logical allies in Hungary's Jobbik, but sadly will probably be shunned by other mainstream nationalists such as Marine Le Pen, pursuing more "moderate" allies.

Greece also has a UKIP-style party – the Independent Greeks, created as a breakaway from the ruling conservatives. They will probably win one or two European seats, but having finished slightly ahead of Golden Dawn in the 2012 general elections, they have since been overtaken by their more radical nationalist rivals. (Similarly the Greek far left have overtaken the moderate socialists.)

Hungary – Category C

Alongside Greece, Hungary has Europe's most successful radical nationalist party. Jobbik polled 14.7% at the 2009 European election, rising to 16.7% at the Hungarian general election the following year. For reasons deeply rooted in the history of Hungarian nationalist resistance to Bolshevism during the 20th century, Jobbik is unembarrassed by open criticism of Zionist Jewry (and earlier Jewish involvement with Communist parties). This has led some other European nationalists to shy away from alliances with Jobbik. There is also a potentially intractable problem of border disputes between Hungary and her neighbours, resulting from the injustices of the Treaty of Trianon after the First World War.

Jobbik looks likely to poll well at the Hungarian general election in April, and gain an extra European seat the following month, but will there be enough radical nationalist colleagues from other countries to form a viable parliamentary bloc?

Ireland - none

The Republic of Ireland has no electorally credible racial nationalist, or even eurosceptic nationalist party. The big question in Irish politics will

be whether Sinn Féin – political arm of the terrorist IRA – will recapture the seat they lost in 2009, and perhaps even gain a second. In the European Parliament, Sinn Féin MEPs ally with various far left groups, many of which (for example in France and Greece) will also increase their support this year.

Italy – Category A (?)

After the collapse of the postwar Italian political system in the early 1990s, some formerly radical nationalists allied with the corrupt tycoon and populist conservative Silvio Berlusconi in a cross-party alliance against the Left. This resulted in Gianfranco Fini, leader of the former neo-fascist party MSI, rebranding his party as the National Alliance (AN), and then merging with Berlusconi's forces as the People of Freedom (PdL). Fini served for five years as Italy's Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister under Berlusconi, and then for another five years as Speaker of the Italian Parliament.

In recent years Fini broke away from Berlusconi over the latter's financial crimes, but has if anything become even more politically liberal, and is now unrecognisable as the young neo-fascist protegé of MSI founder Giorgio Almirante back in the 1970s.

Fini's ex-fascists split from Berlusconi's coalition in 2010 to create a new "Future and Freedom" party, but this has suffered further splits over how far to embrace either (or both) social and economic liberalism, and has now been deserted by most of its founders.

In advance of this year's elections, the most credible Italian nationalist party seems to be Brothers of Italy, founded at the end of 2012 and led by a former youth activist in the AN, Giorgia Meloni, and another ex-fascist, Ignazio La Russa, who was Defence Minister alongside Fini in Berlusconi's government. They will hope to reach the 4% threshold to elect an MEP, a hurdle that is certainly too high for any of the more radical nationalist parties, such as Roberto Fiore's Forza Nuova.

Despite its leaders' fascist pedigree, Brothers of Italy is really a conservative party, as is its smaller rival The Right (*La Destra*), led by another former MSI activist Francesco Storace, who was President of the Lazio region around Rome from 2000 to 2005 and then had a year as Health Minister in a Berlusconi government.

The most radical challenge to the Italian establishment is from the populist comedian Beppe Grillo, whose Five Star Movement is polling around 25% and is in some ways comparable to the U.S. Tea Party. While he reflects widespread disillusionment, Grillo himself has no substantial nationalist programme.

The regionalist Northern League, which was a major force in Italian politics after 1993 and had some racial nationalist aspects (though alienating southern Italian neo-fascists) now seems in decline and could even fall below the 4% threshold, having lost many anti-system protest voters to Grillo.

Latvia – Category A

As with several nations that emerged from the former Soviet bloc, Latvia's politics is complicated by the symbolism of 20th century anti-communism, with nationalists paying homage to political ancestors who were allied to national socialism seventy years ago, but whose modern politics have little or no radical edge.

The National Alliance is the fourth-largest party in Latvia, and has an anti-immigration and anti-Russian platform. It was formed as a coalition of For Fatherland and Freedom (which despite its radical sounding name was actually a free-market conservative party allied to Britain's Conservatives), with the more hardline nationalist All for Latvia. They have one MEP, but are unlikely to join even the most moderate efforts to create a European Parliamentary nationalist bloc.

Lithuania – Category A

Order and Justice – the third-largest party in Lithuania – is allied to UKIP and has two MEPs. A potential wild card in Lithuanian politics is an anti-corruption party founded in 2012 – The Way of Courage – who gained 8% at the 2012 general election, and has some potential to rally populist nationalist voters. The national socialist Lithuanian National Union has no legal status and will be unable to contest the elections.

Several European nationalist parties are in transition. In Italy (*above*) former neo-fascist Giorgia Meloni and former Berlusconi ally Guido Crosetto are among the leaders of a new conservative movement, Fratelli d'Italia. In Romania (*below*) former MEP Gigi Becali, who led the New Generation Party and is best known as owner of the football club Steaua Bucharest, is now serving a three year jail sentence.

Luxembourg – Category A

In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg – one of the original pioneers of the European unity project – there are no serious nationalist parties, and the only significant eurosceptic party is the Alternative Democratic Reform Party, which polled 7.4% in the 2009 elections but would need more than double that support to win a European seat.

Malta – Category C

Norman Lowell's Imperium Europa is (alongside Golden Dawn) the most radical nationalist party contesting the European Parliamentary elections. Founded in 2000, Imperium Europa has frequently been subjected to legal repression, and would need a Greek-style political revolution to win a European seat. The eurosceptic Libertas Malta, which contested the 2009 elections, is no longer active.

Netherlands – Category A/B

Geert Wilders's Party for Freedom (PVV) is Europe's most prominent anti-Islamic party. Though most of his party's programme would be compatible with the likes of UKIP, his extreme Islamophobic rhetoric makes Nigel Farage nervous. The PVV's closest allies are the Flemish VB and the Austrian FPÖ, and Marine Le Pen hopes that these three parties will ally with her FN after the May elections to form the most credible nationalist bloc in the history of the European Union. But will the policies of such a bloc amount to anything beyond Islamophobia? The PVV currently has four MEPs, and might hope possibly to gain one more this year. Wilders will then have a difficult choice as to how far to pursue an alliance with Le Pen which would alienate some of his existing friends such as the Danish People's Party.

Poland – Category A

The main Polish opposition party Law and Justice (which in the European Parliament has been allied to British and Latvian conservatives) will be fighting this year's elections on a joint ticket agreed with "Right Wing of the Republic", a socially conservative party focused on maintaining Poland's Catholic traditions and opposition to abortion. If the British Conservative Party were to move away from euroscepticism, these parties would probably ally with UKIP but have little in common with radical nationalists.

Changing faces of UK nationalism at this year's European parliamentary elections: (*clockwise from top left*)
Marlene Guest, lead BNP candidate in the Yorkshire & Humber region which elected Andrew Brons MEP in 2009;
Chris Beverley, a member of the Brons office staff and former BNP councillor, this year's lead English Democrat candidate in Yorkshire & Humber;
Nikki Sinclaire, an MEP in the West Midlands elected in 2009 for UKIP as the first British transsexual parliamentarian, quit Nigel Farage's party in 2010 and is standing this year for her new "We Demand a Referendum Party";
Rabbi Shneur Odze, a former Conservative councillor in Hackney, is a UKIP candidate this year in North West England;
Paul Weston, a former UKIP candidate who once led the British Freedom Party, briefly the political wing of the English Defence League, will stand for his new party Liberty GB in South East England;
Paul Golding, a former BNP councillor who was once a close ally of Nick Griffin, is standing in Wales for the Britain First party, while his boss Jim Dowson will contest Scotland:

Portugal – Category C
The main Portuguese nationalist movement is the National Renovator Party (PNR), which has forged links with other European nationalist parties including Golden Dawn and the German NPD. The PNR is unlikely to mount a substantial electoral challenge this year. As in Spain, surviving supporters of the pre-1970s dictatorship tend to support the main conservative party, and there is no UKIP-style challenge to this establishment.

Romania – Category C
There are two nationalist parties in Romania, which have been strong enough to elect MEPs, but have adopted maverick policies which put them at odds with potential allies in the European Parliament. Some of these problems are chronic, given the border disputes between Hungary and Romania, and the potential for Romanians to take offence at Western European anti-gypsy policies, which could be interpreted as anti-Romanian.
However part of the problem is related to the personalities of the two Romanian nationalist leaders. Vadim Tudor, founder of the Greater Romania Party (which elected three MEPs in 2009), built his political career as an ostentatious anti-semite, but then shifted towards a more pro-Zionist policy, hiring Jewish public relations adviser Nati Meir. A couple of years later Tudor sacked Meir and reverted to an anti-Jewish policy.
The rival nationalist New Generation Party (Christian Democratic) is led by the owner of well known football club Steaua Bucharest, Gigi Becali. Briefly allied with Tudor's party in 2009, Becali's organisation is regarded as even more anti-Jewish, and following in the tradition of the Iron Guard (whose leader Corneliu Codreanu was venerated by Nick Griffin's NF faction during the 1980s). In May 2013 Becali was given a three year prison sentence for a fraud involving 1990s land deals, and though he has conducted football business from his prison cell, his party is unlikely to campaign substantially this year.

Slovakia – Category A/B
The Slovak National Party (SNS – founded out of the break-up of the Soviet bloc in 1989) is a eurosceptic party whose politics are complicated by hostility to their Hungarian neighbours. The party is often accused of neo-fascist tendencies due to their support for the historic legacy of Slovak leader Jozef Tiso, who was allied to national socialist Germany, but realistically its 21st century politics are not very radical. The SNS has one MEP, who is allied to UKIP.

Slovenia – Category C
The Slovenian National Party (SNS) is an example of the post-Cold War tendency for nationalist parties in Eastern Europe to challenge the New World Order while adopting some semi-nostalgic policies of sympathy with the old communist bloc. For reasons linked to Balkan history, the party is strongly anti-Catholic. The SNS polled 2.9% at the 2009 European elections, and would need to treble this vote to gain an MEP.

Spain – Category A/C
After Gen. Franco's death in 1975, almost all those who had supported his nationalist forces during and after the Spanish Civil War of 1936-39 aligned themselves with the conservative People's Party (PP). There are various nationalist parties – such as the national socialist National Alliance (AN), led by veteran lawyer Pedro Pablo Peña – but none (either of the radical or UKIP style) have had any chance of winning European Parliamentary seats.
At the start of 2014 dissident right-wingers broke away from the governing PP to form Vox, a new party that seems more eurosceptic and more hard-line in its opposition to ETA terrorism and might manage the 2% required to elect a Spanish MEP. This is the third eurosceptic party in recent years to take its name from a Latin noun, after Robert Kilroy-Silk's UKIP breakaway Veritas and the Irish businessman Declan Ganley's Libertas. Each of these earlier parties sank without trace!
As in many other European countries, the only form of nationalist or traditionalist sentiment that is deemed acceptable is in a form which opposes the existing state: i.e. regionalist and separatist parties in Catalonia, the Basque country, Valencia, etc. Some of these join forces for electoral purposes and elect a couple of MEPs. In November 2014 the Catalan regional government plans to stage a referendum on whether to break away from Spain and create an independent Catalonia, but the government in Madrid has so far ruled this is unconstitutional.
Within Catalan nationalism, there is a growing anti-immigration and anti-Islamic party – Platform for Catalonia. Later this year *H&D* will publish a special feature on the relationship between ethnic nationalism and regionalism/separatism.

Sweden – Category A/B

The Sweden Democrats – like the Flemish VB and the Austrian FPÖ – have trimmed their nationalist and immigration policies in the direction of Islamo-obsession, and have many Christian immigrants among their candidates. Having won no European representation in 2009 (falling just short of the 4% threshold), they made a breakthrough the following year to gain 20 seats in the Swedish Parliament. They are sure to gain one or two MEPs this year, and will be part of any negotiations to create a new European nationalist bloc, with or without Marine Le Pen's FN.

The far more radical National Democrats, who have had ties to the BNP, sadly have no chance of winning a European seat.

United Kingdom – Category A

There will be no radical nationalists elected from the UK this year, with the BNP certain to lose its two MEPs (one of whom – Andrew Brons – has already left the BNP to join the new British Democratic Party but will be retiring from the Parliament this year, as he always pledged to do). No post-BNP party has yet established firm electoral foundations.

UKIP is certain to increase its support, and has a 50-50 chance of emerging as the largest single party – though it is highly questionable where its eurosceptic but multiracialist agenda can go from there.

In Northern Ireland (where three MEPs are elected under a different voting system) UKIP is standing for the first time, but in any case will be irrelevant. Sinn Féin will top the poll: the majority Protestant community remaining divided and without effective representation.

The European Parliamentary system allows MEPs to form transnational groups reflecting a shared ideology: these groups gain an officially recognised status, extra funding, staff etc., if they can attract a minimum of 25 MEPs from seven different states.

UKIP-style parties (i.e. Category A above) currently form a group called Europe of Freedom and Democracy, while several more moderate eurosceptic parties choose to ally with the British Conservative Party as "European Conservatives and Reformists".

At present nationalist parties (whether Category B or C above) have not managed to secure sufficient numbers to form a group. In the next *H&D* we will report on Marine Le Pen's post-election efforts to do so.

UK Nationalist Line-Up

Just before this edition of *H&D* went to press, candidates' lists for the 2014 European elections were confirmed. Nick Griffin will of course head the BNP list in North West England. The desperate state of the BNP in 2014 is reflected in Simon Darby's inclusion on the North West slate – Darby is a former West Midlands councillor who now lives in Wales and has no North West connection.

Cathy Duffy – soon to be the last remaining BNP councillor – heads the slate in the East Midlands, where she is joined by the Rev. Robert West and Geoff Dickens, whose backing was crucial in Griffin's narrow leadership victory three years ago.

In Yorkshire the BNP's Rotherham organiser Marlene Guest – one of the region's few remaining Griffin loyalists – will head the slate in a doomed effort to retain the European parliamentary seat won by Andrew Brons five years ago. Number two on the slate is former teacher Adam Walker, imported from the North East region due to the shortage of credible Yorkshire BNP candidates.

The English Democrat slate opposing Mrs Guest is headed by Chris Beverley, who works in the Andrew Brons European office and was a BNP councillor on Leeds City Council from 2006 to 2010. Two fellow ex-BNP candidates – Tom Redmond from Leeds and Ian Sutton from Barnsley – are also on the EDs' Yorkshire slate.

Elsewhere former BNP and NF activist Gary Butler is an ED candidate for South East England. The lead ED candidate in the West Midlands is Kevin Sills, veteran of several nationalist parties including Ian Anderson's NF faction, later renamed National Democrats.

In North West England the ED slate includes two BNP defectors from Merseyside – Paul Rimmer and Steve McEllenborough – as well as Anthony Backhouse, a former candidate for the UKIP splinter group Veritas.

Whereas there would once have been keen competition to become a BNP parliamentary candidate, by the start of March 2014 the party's national elections officer Alwyn Deacon was reduced to advertising on the party's website for any members willing to stand. In a desperate effort to cobble together full slates in every region, farcical nominations ensued such as the Preston based Tony Bamber standing at the opposite corner of England in the South East region.

At least two smaller eurosceptic parties will be fielding candidates this year. Nikki Sinclaire will be defending the West Midlands seat that she won in 2009, but having quit UKIP in 2010 in protest at the party's alleged "far right" tendencies, she will stand this year for her new "We Demand a Referendum Now" party, whose activities will confined to the West Midlands despite unfulfilled boasts that *Sun* columnist Katie Hopkins would be standing for Ms Sinclaire's party in the South West England region.

In a crowded West Midlands field another UKIP defector, Mike Nattrass MEP, is set to defend his seat under the label "An Independence From Europe". Mr Nattrass's party is also contesting the other English regions: bizarrely their lead candidate in the South East is the Dutch MEP Laurence Stassen, who had been leader of Geert Wilders' Dutch Freedom Party group in the European Parliament but quit last month in a row over Wilders' apparent move towards a "racist" immigration policy. Ms Stassen represents the liberal, non-racist faction who wanted Wilders' party merely to oppose Islamist extremism and the EU.

The dying BNP – once a powerful force in the West Midlands region, which came close to electing an MEP in 2009 – has published a slate headed by former Stoke BNP councillor Michael Coleman, who was convicted of "racially aggravated harassment" in 2012 and given an eight-month suspended prison sentence. Second on the West Midlands BNP slate is Nick Griffin's daughter Jennifer Matthys.

Meanwhile ex-UKIP activist Paul Weston is heading his own Liberty GB slate in South East England. Weston made a name for himself a couple of years ago when he briefly led the British Freedom Party, an attempt to create a political wing of the English Defence League. As *H&D* revealed at the time, Weston travelled to Canada for meetings with a notorious terrorist group, the Jewish Defence League. Also on Weston's slate is former BNP student activist Jack Buckby and Enza Ferreri, the party's Italian-born press officer.

Contrary to earlier promises the BNP will not be standing candidates in Northern Ireland at this year's election, no doubt fearing humiliation at the hands of UKIP, who have been recruiting significant activists in the Orange Order including defectors from both the Democratic Unionist Party and the "official" Ulster Unionist Party. UKIP will compete for loyalist votes with Traditional Unionist Voice (TUV), the party led by former DUP MEP Jim Allister.

Although claiming to be the political heirs of Sir Oswald Mosley's pro-European Union Movement, the New British Union decided not to contest this year's election. Neither the National Front nor the relatively new British Democratic Party will field European candidates, so the only European Parliamentary choices for most English nationalist voters will be between the BNP and the English Democrats, apart from in South East England, where they have the additional option of Paul Weston's Liberty GB.

Jim Dowson's Britian First party had been expected to run a spoiler campaign against Nick Griffin in North West England, but have instead taken the pragmatic option of spending their deposit money on slates in Scotland and Wales, which buys them television broadcast time (only viewable of course by Scottish and Welsh voters). Though now based in Northern Ireland, Jim Dowson was active in Scottish anti-abortion politics some years ago, so his decision to head the BFP's Scottish slate makes some sense. Paul Golding's candidature in Wales is less explicable: his only connection with the principality dates back to his years working for Nick Griffin. The BFP seems to be putting most of its efforts into street activities in a bid to seize the political ground once held by the EDL.

The uncertain nationalist scene in Europe is matched in the UK, though at a significantly lower level of electoral ambition. The BNP is likely to respond to electoral rejection by drifting further towards "extremist" fringe politics, but unlike in Greece and Eastern Europe this radical posturing will be essentially hollow, without any ideological core commitment at the top of the party.

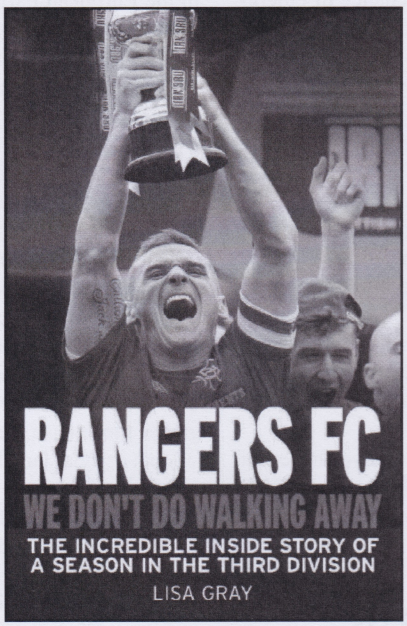
Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

Book Review: *Rangers FC – We Don't Do Walking Away: The Incredible Inside Story of a Season in the Third Division*, by Lisa Gray

Lisa Gray, *We don't Do Walking Away, The Incredible Inside Story of a Season in the Third Division.* Published by Black and White Publishing Ltd, 2013. ISBN 978-1-84502-635-6 (Paperback). Available for £8.00 from Black and White Publishing, 29 Ocean Drive, Edinburgh, EH6 6JL or online at www.blackandwhitepublishing.com

Good Bye to Hello Hello?

The tale of Glasgow Rangers' descent into the lowest, Third Division, of Scottish football and subsequent emergence thereafter, is a fascinating and, often, an inspiring story. There are, actually, two stories here. One, with an appeal to those with legal and financial minds, is that of the team going into receivership and having to fend off a host of legal and monetary problems. These problems were not of the superficial sort – nor are they, as of yet, completely alleviated. There was a time that the "Gers" were in danger of ending their very existence, which had commenced in March of 1872. The other narrative focuses on the efforts of supporters, players and managers to keep Rangers' successful identity afloat in the far from glamorous environs of lower tier football.



It is this latter saga which is the focus of *Rangers FC We Don't Do Walking Away: The Incredible Inside Story of a Season in the Third Division.* Essentially, this is the diary of a journalist who attended all the matches, home and away, league and cup, throughout the 2012-2013 season.

However, this is not simply the account of a football season, albeit with the twist of a high level team competing at a level significantly below them. It is also of some socio-political and religious note. Rangers, have for most of their years, been associated with the Protestant faith and the political cause of Loyalism or Unionism, a cause which has spanned the past century with its focus moving from opposing Home Rule prior to the First World War to preserving the Protestant/British identity of Northern Ireland at present. Underlying all these disputes is the question of religious/cultural/national essence. Does one identify with Protestantism and hence with Britain or with Catholicism and therefore with the Republic of Ireland? Does one wave the Union Jack, the Red Hand of Ulster, St. Andrew's Cross (with or without inserted Red Hand) or the Irish Republican tricolor?

The reader should keep in mind that the days when this was primarily a conflict of religious doctrine have largely faded. To the extent that Rangers and, their fierce opponents, Glasgow Celtic, represent communities, these are no longer, primarily, orthodox faith communities, professing divergent views of transubstantiation, Papal infallibility, salvation by faith or works or any of the questions, major or arcane, of Christian dogma, which animated Europeans since the Reformation. Rather, we must realize that this particular, and, to outsiders, somewhat peculiar conflict lies in the hazy realm where religious differences long ago created a gap which is today, almost uniformly, cultural and political. Of course, much of that culture divide makes reference to battles and ideas steeped in religion.

(A brief digression – To a small degree the formerly religious conflicts have been translated into a modern idiom. The covenantal aspects of much of Protestant thought yields a certain modern anti-authority vibe, which might manifest itself in disdain for the supposed subservient (to clergy) nature of Catholics. Many lay Protestants will offer as part of their anti catholic clichés, their belief that Catholics obey Papal teaching in all areas of life whereas Prods think for themselves. Although an alluring mythology, the notion that Catholics, in other than microscopic numbers still submit to Roman teaching in areas such as birth control and the like is about as true as the notion that a robust Calvinism has nothing to command about bedroom behavior.)

To those far removed from the history of these struggles, their current fierceness seems surprising and, at this late date in the history of European man, a bit anachronistic. As an American racialist once said to me, "Shouldn't they all be more concerned with massive non-white immigration and political liberalism?"

In fact, if we may dwell for a moment on whether the feuding supporters really are of differing genetic stock it is worth noting that Scotland, Northern and Southern Ireland are all a part of the areas which at one time spoke a dialect of Gaelic. As to whether the invasion and conquest of what was to become England by Germanic and Scandinavian tribes (Angles, Saxon, Jutes, Frisians etc.) has yielded a somewhat different genetic source for the English is an intriguing question debated among geneticists. But leaving such scholarly matters to the academicians, for the layman, the inhabitants of the once United Kingdom seem largely the same racially, although greatly divided culturally and historically.

(One last point before we proceed, there was and is a school of "radical nationalism", unable over the years to garner much support, which would like to focus on an Ulster culture which goes beyond the religious divide and seeks complete national independence for that troubled province.)

So, although to racialists of other lands, this conflict may seem like a "fine mess" (as Oliver Hardy used to say to Stan Laurel), to those involved it strikes to the core of their identity and collective memory. If, as racialists assert, that it is moral, healthy and, generally a good thing to have a group identity, then for Rangers/Celtic worlds the question of being a Billy or a Tim should always be part of who one is.

Over the decades the Rangers-Celtic rivalry, known as the "Old Firm" (a cynical view of the rivalry seeing it primarily as a business, dating back to the late nineteenth century) has featured not only a fierce clash of identities, spilling over, time and again, into low level violence, but also features the two best football clubs in Scotland by far. And, although a few of the other teams, of what is now the Scottish Premiership, have had their years or periods of success, at the end of the day, the highest level of competition has always been that of Rangers and Celtic. Each of these teams has had great success in Scotland in both league and Cup play and each has seen moments of glory in Europe. As part of the current self-perpetuating dominance of wealth in football, Rangers and Celtic have built upon their on the pitch talents to acquire the money needed to purchase enough skilled players to maintain their dominance.

Thus, it was a seismic shock when it was revealed in the spring of 2012 that Rangers was deeply in arrears and had engaged into several forms of financial deceit to keep themselves afloat. Faced with the prospect of quite literally going out of business, the players (well, more accurately some of the players), the fans and former Rangers star, now manager, Ally McCoist resolved that the team would not go under. As noted above there is a legal/financial story here as well, but our concern will be the soul of Rangers, not its pocketbook.

When asked, shortly after the news of Rangers' bankruptcy became public, as to whether he was going to resign, McCoist was quoted, in words that have since become a rallying cry, "This is my club, the same as it is for thousands and thousands of Rangers supporters, and we don't do walking away." So, Rangers' supporters now had a phrase to add to WATP ("We Are the People"). In short order, a graying Rangers' fan, surrounded by two stuffed bears clad in tartan light blue, would set the phrase to a lively tune on YouTube which tens of thousands would watch.

When the dust had cleared, before the 2012-2013 season had begun, the Scottish Football League members voted 25-5 to punish Rangers by dumping them into the Third Division. Whether this was an appropriate decision or simply the settling of some old scores is best left to future researchers, but the decision was final. In the coming football season, the once mighty Glasgow Rangers would be facing the likes of Annan, Elgin, Berwick (also "Rangers" by the way), Montrose, Stirling Albion. Of the ten teams on this level, only two had stadiums capable of seating over five thousand (Rangers being one of them) and five could not fit four thousand.

The season proved remarkable in several ways, all which are discussed in full in Gray's book. First, Rangers' supporters, in fact, did not walk away. They continued to fill Ibrox, as in years past, and did, indeed follow the squad "anywhere" and "everywhere". Second, although the Third Division managements and their supporters proved most hospitable and savored the experience, their players proved, almost always, surprisingly competitive. Eventually, Rangers triumphed over both strange environs and inspired opponents to finish first and secure promotion to Division Two. Third, this being the age of Political Terror and Thought Control, Rangers found themselves, even in the relative obscurity of Division Three, twice embroiled in accusations of "sectarianism" and "racism" by rival supporters and ownership, respectively.

Bridgeton Purple and Crown Flute Band (Belfast 1935). The famous Billy Fullerton, who was a member of The Protestant Club, the British Fascists and the KKK is sat in the centre of the front row behind the bass drum. The just as famous song *The Billy Boys* may or may not have been have named after him.

We have now arrived at the second focus of this essay. Over almost every contemporary telling of Glasgow Rangers' history hovers the ogre of the dreaded "sectarianism". For example, even in the feel good, lavishly illustrated table top history of the team *Rangers: The Official Illustrated History* by Lindsay Herron, we read concerning Rangers and Celtic: "The religious divide gives the fixture a dimension that few *intra*-city rivalries have, but the hatred and bitterness it has engendered is undoubtedly unwanted in modern society." (We ignore for now the implication that "pre-modern" society either would have been okay with these "hatreds" and, thus, evil or, alternatively, just not yet properly enlightened by the wisdom of modernity. This is a fundamental problem for those who accept the feminism, homophilia and multi racialism of the present as irrefutable dogma, what are they to think about their own immediate and long ago, ancestors? Were they all evil folks? Were all the ancestors of European Man, even as recently as WWII, evil chauvinists, homophobes and racists?) The trendy cliché of "sectarianism", which lacks even a workable definition, as all similar words employed by the Political Terror that dominates the public forum today, is forever without clear explanation. What might it possibly mean? It is arguable that it is precisely the loose definition of these words of social control which enables our would-be Mind Controllers to use them whenever and wherever they wish. Nonetheless, despite the lack of a lucid definition, powerful forces, in media and government were and are on a mission to do away with the demon of "sectarianism".

An early victory in the move to soften Rangers identity came in 1989 when the team, under new manager Graham Souness, signed Mo Johnston, a Catholic who had previously played for Celtic, to a contract. (Although, in point of fact, other Catholics, less overt in faith or stature, had played for the team, Johnston was the first public signing in recent memory.) For decades the club had an unwritten rule to employ only Protestants. This was now to be viewed as a great evil and its eradication as a long awaited triumph for righteousness.

Yet, if we turn back the clock a bit further, one discovers that the move to sever the link of Rangers to its cultural and historical roots had begun before the Johnston signing. It was in 1987 that the club management turned down for the first time the Orange Order's request to host its annual religious service at Ibrox. And it was then that steps began to remove the vendors of Orange literature and paraphernalia from the areas directly around the Ibrox. In its past, Rangers teams had actually gone to Ulster, there to raise funds for the Order.

In fact, at one of these benefit matches held on 10 May, 1955 to help pay for improvements on the Sandy Row Orange Lodge in Belfast, the game program featured the following rhyme, from an anonymous "Orange Poet".

To guard the faith which Luther preached
The rights which William won
The Orangeman relies upon
His Bible and his gun.

(We leave aside whether the "faith which Luther preached" would please the true Presbyterian believer of Scotland or Northern Ireland with his consubstantiationist view of the Eucharist. Whether to follow Zwingli or Calvin on this is a question which, one suspects, intrigues Rangers supporters far less than memories of the 1972 European Cup Winners Cup win.)

Similar ventures in poetry will not be printed in Gers' programmes today, to be sure.

But was it really the case that the old Rangers identity was evil? Would it be considered a moral crime for a black or a Muslim to wish to employ his co-racialists or co-religionists? I am not an expert in this field but my initial research has yielded that a Muslim is actually required to employ a Muslim, whenever possible, over a non-Muslim. Do not the same Mind Controllers, who spent decades defaming Rangers, encourage group identity for non-whites and Jews? In fact, the Orthodox Jewish law actually commands Jews to employ and patronize their fellow Jews. Is this wrong? May a man not grant first allegiance to family, kin, community, and ethnicity? One begins to think that it is only certain identities that must never be asserted.

Why can't a team be part of a larger community? Why may a team not have a cultural identity?

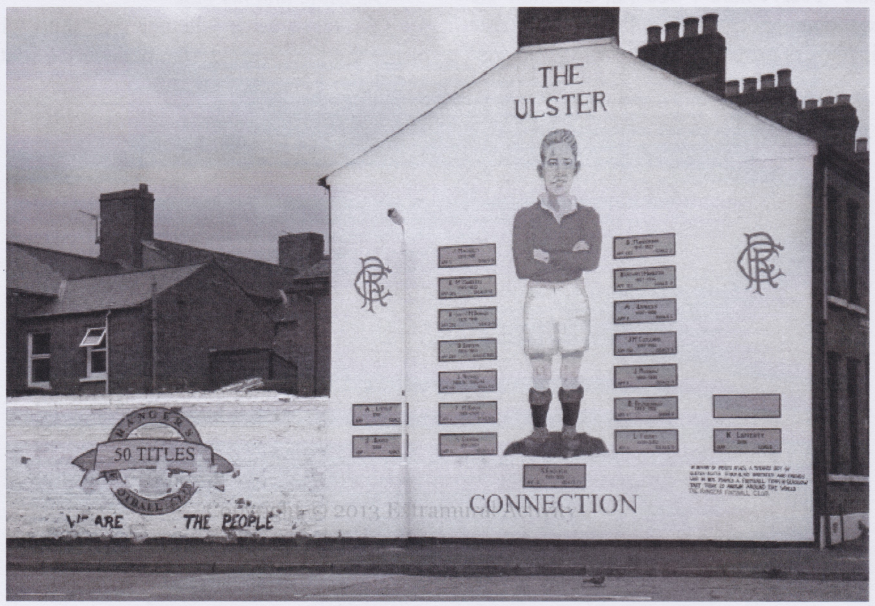
Rangers today seek to render the soul of their supporters as antiseptic and arid as possible. The attempt to offer, over the tannoy, the meaningless *Penny Arcade* and the, more touching, but still identity-less, *Blue Sea of Ibrox* in place of many "forbidden" songs of the past is the culmination of this process. In fact, even the seemingly innocent *Simply the Best* (of Bonnie Tyler and later Tina Turner fame) has slowly been shelved due to the supporters' proclivity to curse the IRA and the Pope via their own creative chorus response. Indeed, many of the most fervent of young Gers supporters these days seem content to wave vapid blue based flags as opposed to the Red Hand, St. Andrew's Cross and Union Jacks which all flowed on terraces of the past.

(Let us pause here a moment to ponder the two just mentioned cursings. Is it wrong for a Protestant to wish the IRA ill? Would UEFA punish Israelis cursing Hamas? An organization, which has clearly espoused terror against innocents to achieve political power might seem to be a just recipient of its victims' hatreds. As to the Pope, well, if one accepts the Reformation view of the Papacy as a monstrous error of doctrine which confused the Christianity of millions for over a thousand years, shouldn't it be justly resented, especially when this errant dogma was often forced upon Europe by physical coercion? Granted that today's Rome is a far cry from what once was, but must a people abandon its past pain just because political commissars demand it? More on this soon.)

In recent years, Rangers' management, as much of the European world, has been called to task by our Mind Controllers. And, following in the footsteps of Mayor Lundy, they too have surrendered. Witness this subservient excerpt from the Wee Blue Book Season 06/07. "What the UEFA directives have done is to make us examine our own traditions and make us more determined to celebrate them in a . . . disciplined manner . . . Please support all the initiatives which celebrate our heritage and culture in a colorful and progressive way." Specifically the book demands "sing the songs in the Wee Blue Book" and "Display your legitimate flags and banners."

What exactly did UEFA say in 2006? Well, among other matters, they proclaimed, "The *Billy Boys* is associated with an attitude that is strongly sectarian and thus discriminatory" and "the singing of the *Billy Boys* is prohibited." What is this horrible song with its "sectarian" and "discriminatory" words?

The music of this evil song was actually composed by an American, Henry Clay Work in 1865. He also wrote its lyrics. However, its title at that time was *Marching Through Georgia*, and it celebrated the barbarous march of Union General William Sherman across the southern state of Georgia in 1864 to capture the coastal city of Savannah. The pillaging of Sherman's troops has long been regarded with shame on both sides of the Civil War, but in particular it was regarded with horror in the south. Nonetheless, in the revenge filled aftermath of that terrible war, it became quite popular in the north.



A mural in east Belfast celebrates Ulster-born footballers who played for Rangers, including in the centre Sam English, born in the village of Aghadowey near Coleraine, who holds the Rangers record for league goals in a single season: 44 goals in 1931-2.

This is a frequent occurrence in Northern Ireland, Scotland and England, as many songs of America's first century, military, folk and religious have been freely shipped back and forth from the colonies to their Mother Country and vice versa. Not a surprising exchange as the early peoples of the United States were largely from UK stock.

I leave to Rangers historians, of greater acumen than I, to determine at what point the song became the *Billy Boys*. Common wisdom has it that the "Billy" referred to Billy Fullerton, leader of The Protestant Club in 1930s Glasgow and devoted, as its membership card had it, "to uphold King, Country and Constitution . . . and to defend other Protestants." Glasgow had many clubs (some called them "street gangs" in that era) and the need to defend one's co-religionists was no idle matter. Interestingly enough, Fullerton was also a member of Rotha Linton-Orman's British Fascists during the same period. Others have tried to argue that the Billy means King William of Orange and it was just coincidental that Fullerton was also a "Billy". Whatever the truth may be the song became a terrace favorite.

It actually has fairly long lyrics with references to the 12th July, "no surrender" and the like, but it is the rousing chorus which really caught on. Here are the offending lyrics:

Hello, Hello, we are the Billy Boys
Hello, hello you'll know us by our noise
We're up to our knees in Fenian blood
Surrender or you'll die
For we are the Bridgeton Billy (alt. Derry) boys.

There are others forbidden tunes such as *No Pope of Rome*, and *The Famine Song*, but we will focus our attention on the above lyrics, seeing as almost all major Rangers football victories up till recent years have been accompanied by rousing renditions of this tune. (See the YouTube clip "Rangers Fans Incredible Support Rocks Old Hampden Park" for a brief clip of what used to be.) And now it has fallen as silent as did the Old Orange Flute once "Bob Williamson married Brigit McGinn".

Whether to demonize these anti Catholic manifestations of Rangers identity depends, at root, on what a people's identity may rightfully be?

Let us turn to the Bible a bit on this subject. The ancient Hebrews were first exiled by the Babylonians in 587 BC. Thereafter, we read in the 137th Psalm, "O daughter of Babylon thou are to be destroyed. Happy shall be he that repayeth thee as thou hast served us. Happy shall be he that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the rock." Or, ponder this from Psalm 79, which sounds positively sectarian: "Pour out Thy wrath upon the nations that know Thee not, And upon the Kingdoms that call not upon Thy name." Similarly, we find in Lamentations 3:66 concerning the Gentiles who waged war against the Hebrews, "Pursue them with anger and destroy them under the Heavens of the Lord."

Does the above mean that contemporary Hebrews, or Christians who accept the Old Testament, desire to literally smash all Babylonian children's heads against rocks? No more so than did the thousands who used to assemble on the terraces at Ibrox or Hampden Park wished to actually stride through a deep stream of Catholic blood. And no more than did American abolitionists or 1960s black civil rights' workers in America who sang the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* really want to "loosen" upon all white southerners "the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword" or desire that the Lord's "heel" should "crush" them all.

These are songs of identities and causes, which in time of physical battle may be meant literally, but usually are simply the way a people recalls its buffetings, triumphs and hopes in history. To this day Jews recite the above quoted portions of the Bible at the Passover service. Does this mean that all Jews are vicious folk, chomping at the bit to launch wars of total destruction? Of course not. It means simply that they are a people with a long memory, who cherish their history and are not going to forget those who caused their suffering in the past.

Our Mind Controllers wish that all men (well, all European men, at least, others are called upon to have long and often bitter memories!) should forget their pasts and despise their ancestors. To the degree that they can commercialize football and reduce to the level of entertainment, they will have succeeded in their plan to destroy the faiths and identities of the heritages of Europe.

The struggle of Glasgow Rangers to climb out of the nether reaches of Scottish football and their supporters' continued loyalty has been an inspiration around the world. It is a shame that this glorious saga must be hampered by censors and Mind Controllers. When and if the day comes that Europe casts off its chains, the walls of Ibrox and, yes, Parkhead as well, will be in full throttle celebrating their past, present and future. And, if the price to be paid for this was and will yet be the singing of tunes that once displeased our current commissars, then, well, so be it.

Gil Caldwell, Trenton, New Jersey

Editor's Note: After this article was submitted, I checked Andrew Davies's book City of Gangs: Glasgow and the Rise of the British Gangster, *which seems to conclusively prove that "Billy" refers to King William and that the name was used before Billy Fullerton joined the group. The book has many pages on the subject of the original Billy Boys, including the fact that the song itself was actually sung in the streets of Glasgow as early as the 1920s.*

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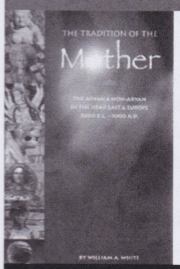

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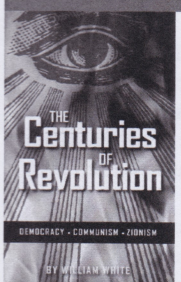

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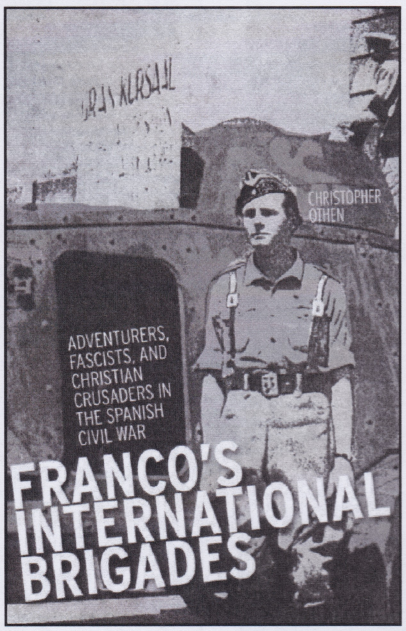
Book Review: *Franco's International Brigades:* by Christopher Othen

Franco's International Brigades: Adventurers, Fascists, and Christian Crusaders in the Spanish Civil War published in January 2013 in a joint venture between London-based Hurst & Co. and Columbia University of New York. ISBN 978-1849042-475 344 pages. Paperback. Available in the UK for £15.99 from, Hurst & Co. 41 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PL, or online at www.hurstpublishers.com

History is always written by the victors, or so we are told, but one exception, perhaps more apparent than real, is the history of the Spanish Civil War. The Nationalists defeated the Spanish Republic completely, then (just to make sure) killed so many as 50,000 (mainly) Communist prisoners in reprisal shootings after the war was over in a bloody beginning to the ruthless personal dictatorship of General Franco that lasted from 1939 to his death in 1975. Even so, the story of the war is almost always narrated (at any rate in English) from the point of view of the losers.



That is partly because in the wider European conflict of 1939-1945, the fortunes of war were to favour the ideological tendencies that lost so completely in Spain in the three immediately preceding years of civil war between 1936 and 1939, and partly because the Left achieved a measure of ideological hegemony in the post-war Anglosphere (though not in the Latin countries) which would have gladdened the heart of that revisionist Marxist theoretician of the long march through the institutions, Antonio Gramsci, had he lived to see it (instead he died in 1937 while the war in Spain was raging, broken in health by a long sojourn in one of Mussolini's insalubrious prisons).

One of the most enduring myths of the Left in England (and to an extent even in America) is the story of the International Brigades, the volunteers who went to fight (according to the received leftist discourse) for "democracy", though most were actually Moscow line Communists who (unwisely, as matters turned out) idolised Stalin. By a not displeasing irony, Stalin ungratefully killed most of the refugees from Franco's Spain who made it to the U.S.S.R., since he did not trust anyone who had been exposed to the various unorthodox leftist influences at work in the Republican zone.

The myth of the International Brigades still endures, as the old soldiers of the civil war fade away. Even as you read this review, that staunch anti-fascist Denis MacShane might be boring his fellow prisoners nigh unto death with tales of the Brigadiers' last offensive on the Ebro to while away the hours in gaol! Almost no-one however knows the story of the other volunteers, the men who fought for God (many, as we shall see, were fervent Catholics) and Spain against Communism, and the no less courageous and resolute women who left comfortable, often wealthy, homes to tend the Nationalist wounded amongst the blood, pus and screams of the grim field hospitals.

In his interesting book, *Franco's International Brigades*, Christopher Othen has done much to redress this unwarranted neglect, and to give a broadly fair account of fighters for whose beliefs the author manifestly has little sympathy.

The chapters of this book that are most likely to interest readers of *H&D* tell the stories of the British, Irish and American volunteers for the Nationalist cause, but it would be wrong to imagine that they were a numerically significant component of Franco's armies. Most of the foreign volunteers in Spain were either "Moors" from Spain's Moroccan protectorate, or Portuguese.

Interestingly, as Othen tells us, the leftists of the 1930s were shockingly racist in their attitudes to the Moroccans, whom they portrayed as sub-Saharan Negroes, though they were actually light-skinned Arabs and Berbers.

Othen observes that: "Spanish Republican propaganda was not subtle. It portrayed Moroccans as grinning, thick-lipped savages in turbans who attacked defenceless white women and bayoneted children . . . Gustav Regler's International Brigade novel *The Great Adventure* makes a throw-away remark about 'bestial Africans with the knife between their teeth.'" (p. 230). That doyen of the British left, Philip Toynbee, attacked Franco for "bringing African savages into an European war", though (Othen tells us at p. 230) he apologised later (presumably to the Africans, rather than to Franco, though we are not explicitly told!). There is much more of this stuff, but you get the drift. PC in the modern sense the Left of that era was not.

A rather extreme example of the racism of the Left was the untimely end of Oliver Law of the George Washington battalion of the XV International Brigade, one of the first American Negroes to command white troops in battle. The white soldiers, though hand-picked by the American Communist party, did not take too kindly to being under a black commander, so they killed him on 9th July 1937, while fighting near Madrid.

The many Portuguese volunteers were a curious mixture of poor peasants motivated by Catholic religious fervour and a desire for pay (not that the paltry wages paid to soldiers on both sides made anyone in Spain rich from fighting) and radical National Syndicalists, unimpressed with the very far from radical regime of Dr Salazar in their native country.

They hoped (in vain, as events turned out) to use their military experience to overthrow their dictator and replace him with their own leader, Francisco Preto. Salazar however completely outmanoeuvred the National Syndicalists, by co-opting the pliant and marginalising the unco-operative, much as Franco did with his own Falangist rival Hedilla, the ideologically sound but uncharismatic successor to the great José Antonio Primo de Rivera, murdered by the Republicans in a Madrid gaol not long after the war broke out. Preto survived and enjoyed a kind of revenge over Salazar by joining the Portuguese Left in overthrowing Salazar's chosen successor, Dr Caetano in 1974.

The other really important foreign contingents came from Germany and Italy. Quite how many of them were "volunteers" in the strict sense of the word is debatable, though many a Luftwaffe man was eager to get some combat experience in the Condor Legion. One of many German pilots who flew for Franco was Adolf Galland, later a famous fighter ace of the Second World War.

The Germans' contribution to the Nationalist struggle was valuable, and arguably critical. German transport planes brought Franco's Army of Africa from Morocco to Spain at the beginning of the war. German fliers won air superiority over the Republican air force, which more than compensated for the impressive performance of the heavy Soviet armour deployed by the Republic against the much inferior German and Italian tanks of the Nationalists.

The military value of the Italian ground troops was more questionable (their airmen fought well, the Italian planes outclassing the Soviet equipment of the Republican air force as thoroughly as their German counterparts) though the Italians came in far larger numbers. Amongst them was Licio Gelli, later a prominent member of the powerful Masonic lodge P2, which played a murky role in post-1945 Italian politics. At any rate, Italy's contribution to the Nationalist cause in terms of *matériel* was enormous, and cost Italy's economy dear. Little thanks did either of the Axis states get from Franco, as Peter Rushton has pointed out elsewhere in these pages (see *H&D* 58).

Other foreign contingents included members of the Rumanian Iron Guard (who fought with courage and honour, as Othen acknowledges), Poles, White Russians, Frenchmen (both fascists and ultra-Catholics, who did not see eye to eye, a repeated theme of the war in Spain), Belgians, a much decorated Finn, many South Americans (though more fought for the Republic), and even a Turk and an Indian (who was badly wounded and stayed in Spain after the war, converting to Catholicism and drawing a veteran's pension, which he had more than earned). There were also a few Jewish volunteers. All their stories are interesting, some are moving, but space does not allow a fuller review. Read the book and learn about them.

For most readers in the English speaking world, the stories of the British, Irish and American fighters in the Nationalist army will be of the greatest immediate interest.

Few of the British volunteers were actually fascists, whatever the Left said. Indeed, Sir Oswald Mosley strongly discouraged his followers from going to Spain. On 6th August 1936, the BUF publication *Action* described the war in Spain as "nothing but the old nineteenth century class war: a war between rich and poor."

Action had a point. Many Spanish Falangists felt very unhappy at fighting to preserve the wealth and privileges of the landowning classes. In the southern province of Andalucia in particular, the vast mass of the rural population was pauperised, almost all the land being in the hands of rather fewer than one hundred wealthy families.

Unsurprisingly, old school Tories were more sympathetic than was Mosley: "I am pro-Franco and hope that he wins" wrote Henry 'Chips' Channon, later a prominent appeaser and opponent of Churchill. Leo Amery MP was also supportive. His sons John (who was executed after the Second World War for collaboration with the Axis) and Julian (for many decades a prominent Conservative MP and author of the fifth and sixth volumes of the famous Garvin and Amery biography of Joseph Chamberlain) both visited the nationalist zone.

Support for Franco was not limited to the pro-appeasement element of the Tory party. Winston Churchill's son, Randolph, also supported the nationalists, but shocked his hosts while touring the nationalist zone in 1937, when he asked in front of a delegation of German diplomats: "Is there not one Jew left in Germany capable of shooting that bastard Hitler?" No doubt, in the best Churchill family tradition, he had had a skin-full before uttering this tactful comment!

The strongest support for the Nationalist cause in England came from the Catholic community. It is difficult today even for the non-specialist historian, let alone the man or woman in the pews, to grasp how politicised Catholicism was in those days, and in what direction.

While strongly opposed to the more extreme racial theories of the German National Socialists, the Catholic Church was much more nuanced in its view of the less racially conscious southern European fascists, whose corporativist ideas were not dissimilar to (and perhaps influenced by) Catholic social teaching that sought to chart a third way (to coin a phrase) between capitalism and Communism.

Such Catholic publications as *The Tablet*, which in the years after the Second World War, and more particularly after the Second Vatican Council, became a byword for modish leftism and the embrace of liberation theology, passionately advocated Franco's cause. Its editor Douglas Woodruff (from an old recusant family, one of whom had been Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench in the reign of Mary Tudor) called the war "a new crusade against the destructive power of Moscow." Other pro-Franco voices were to be found in the pages of the *Catholic Herald* and the *Universe*, then as now the principal Catholic newspapers in England.

Perhaps the most important of the English Catholic partisans of Franco was the publisher and First World War veteran, Douglas Jerrold, who paid for the aeroplane, provided by the unsuspecting Olley Air Services Ltd of Croydon, whose Captain Bebb flew General Franco from the Canary Islands to Spanish Morocco, where the uprising against the Left wing Republican government was to begin. A sprinkling of mainly upper class English Catholic men went even further and fought in the Nationalist army, almost all in the ranks of the Carlist Requetés, one of the rival royalist factions fighting on the Nationalist side.

The Nationalist army was just as much an uneasy coalition of disparate and often mutually hostile groups as the Republican forces, which included Socialists, Moscow line Communists, Trotskyites (whom the Communists really did called "splittists": the famous scene in *Life of Brian* is based on fact), in whose militia, POUM, the misnamed Workers' Party of Marxist Unity, Eric Blair, better known to literature as George Orwell, fought, and many Anarchists, who began the war by murdering Falangists but ended it by executing the Communist officers of the Madrid garrison, so as to negotiate better terms with the victorious Nationalists for themselves.

Foreigners on the Nationalist side fought in the ranks of the Falangists, the Foreign Legion, but mainly of the Carlists, who were a royalist faction, by no means an universally popular position on the Nationalist side. Many Nationalists were themselves in favour of a republic and opposed to the monarchy. One such was the fanatical and highly competent general commanding the Seville garrison, Quiepo de Llano, a hardliner even by the unrelenting standards of the time, who quite sincerely and with no trace of irony signed off his radio broadcasts threatening to kill ten Republican sympathisers for every Nationalist murdered by the Republicans (a promise that he kept) with the words *¡Viva España y viva la Republica!*

For complicated historical reasons, there were however two bitterly hostile royalist factions, as there were two rival pretenders to the Spanish throne.

British Nationalist volunteers serving with Franco's forces included Peter Kemp (*left*) – a rare non-Catholic in the nationalist ranks – who later carried out behind the lines missions in Poland and Albania during the Second World War for the Special Operations Executive (SOE); and Roy Campbell (*right*) one of the great English poets of the 20th century, who served as a war correspondent with Franco's army after helping shelter Catholic priests and nuns fleeing from Communist butchery in Toledo at the start of the Civil War.

As is well known, modern Spain was created by the union of the kingdoms of Castile and Aragon, symbolised by the marriage in 1469 of their rulers Queen Isabella the Catholic and King Ferdinand.

Women could succeed to the throne of Castile, indeed, Isabella was queen in her own right, but Aragon observed the Salic law, under which only a male heir could succeed, so that the brother or nephew of a king who left only a daughter would be preferred to the daughter.

Despite the obvious potential for trouble, no-one gave much thought to whether the Aragonese or the Castillian law of succession would apply in the new, unified kingdom. Subsequent attempts to legislate for the succession proved controversial. The question did not arise in an acute form until 1833 after the death of King Ferdinand VII, who left an infant daughter later crowned as Queen Isabella II and a brother, Don Carlos.

Isabella II was the figurehead of the Spanish liberals, Don Carlos much more than the figurehead of the Catholic, conservative faction. Decades of bloody and devastating warfare ensued between their supporters in a country that had suffered greatly in the Peninsular war only a few decades before. The 1936-1939 war was thus not the first civil war that Spain suffered. In the end Isabella II prevailed, which was unfortunate, since she was by common consent even of her own supporters quite the worst, most corrupt, most dissipated and most incompetent ruler that Spain has ever had, hated by all, even those who had fought for her, and lived to regret it.

As Americans will know, "lost cause" mythology can be romantically alluring, so Carlism proved to be tenacious long after Don Carlos' defeat, especially since Isabella II did her utmost to make Spaniards wish that Don Carlos had won.

Franco was adept at playing off Alfonsists (the heirs to Isabella II, from whose line the present King of Spain is descended) and Carlists, since the wily Caudillo needed the support of both factions, but probably never had any intention of restoring either rival line to the throne for so long as he lived, so as to keep power firmly in his own hands.

The Carlist Requetés played a crucial role in the conquest of the north of Spain, where Carlism was strong in the deeply Catholic, conservative rural populations. Distributists will note with interest the failure of the left amongst the rural population of northern Spain, where there were fewer great estates, and fewer landless poor with nothing but their labour to sell, and many more smallholders, with a stake in society.

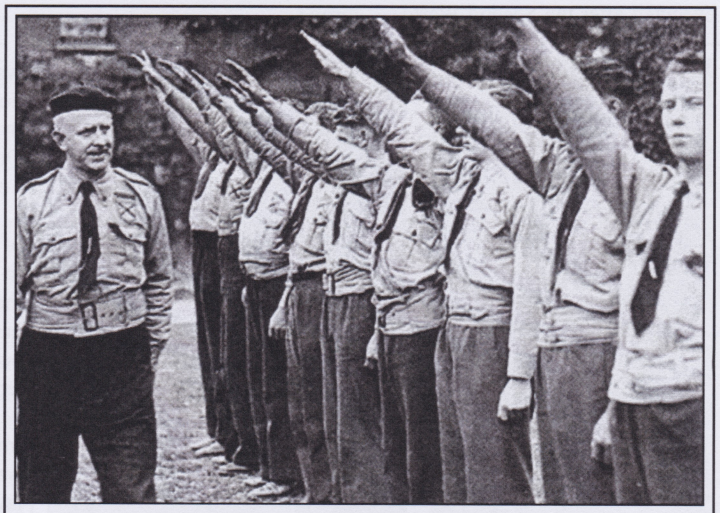
The Requetés fought with heroic courage, and were well armed and organised, besides enjoying better than average rations (thanks to sympathetic peasants) and medical services (thanks to the nursing orders of the Catholic Church). Unfortunately, they had some ideas not conducive to survival in modern warfare, such as that it is cowardly to take cover, however heavy

the enemy fire, and unnecessary to wear camouflage uniform, as God's will decides whether a solder lives or dies. They went into battle with such unwise notions and wearing traditional bright red berets to boot, which made excellent targets for enemy snipers. As a result, they took disproportionately heavy casualties, so fatally weakening their bargaining power in the post-1939 political settlement of Spain. Marginalised by the victorious Franco, Carlism declined into irrelevance after the restoration of the Alfonsist line in 1975, not least because it suffered further splits between rival Carlist claimants.

English fighters in the Carlist ranks included Cambridge graduate Peter Kemp and war artist James Walford. Kemp in particular saw active service of the bloodiest kind. He only ever doubted the cause once, when assigned the distasteful duty of executing a fellow Briton, a Republican prisoner. If you were wondering, he overcame his distaste, and did his duty.

In those saner days, women did not serve in combat arms, but serve they did in no less important roles. One such was Priscilla Scott-Ellis, from an upper class background, who might have lived a life of pleasure and ease, but instead volunteered as a nurse in a Nationalist field hospital (pp. 246-247). Conditions were grim, but might have been even worse, had it not been for the generous support of the (Catholic) Bishops' Committee for the Relief of Spanish Distress, which raised large sums to pay for good quality medical supplies.

Sometimes, however, something was lost in the translation, so one hopes that the order received in London for 10,000 *anguilas* (eels) sent in error for 10,000 *agujas* (needles) was not fulfilled too literally! Additional generous help for the Nationalist wounded came from the Anglo-Spanish Medical Service of Gabriel Herbert, converted to the Catholic faith by Hilaire Belloc. Herbert's sister married the well-known Catholic novelist, Evelyn Waugh.



Gen. Eoin O'Duffy, former IRA Chief of Staff, reviewing his "Blueshirt" volunteers – some of the many Catholic recruits to the Francoist cause

Before leaving for Ireland and then the Bronx, it would be wrong to overlook Roy Campbell, a South African poet and sometime friend of Laurie Lee of *Cider with Rosie* fame. Campbell, yet another Catholic convert, was one of the few literary figures strongly engaged on the Nationalist side. Methuen published his long poem, *The Flowering Rifle*, the author's foreword to which would certainly not be published by any mainstream publisher today, so much less free is the England of 2014 than the England of 1939.

"Humanitarianism (said Campbell) invariably sides where there is most room for sentimental self-indulgence in the filth or famine of others. It sides automatically with the Dog against the Man, the Jew against the Christian, the black against the white, the servant against the master, the criminal against the judge. It is a form of moral perversion due to overdomestication, protestantism (sic) gone bad." Just in case you have not got the picture, the foreword concludes *¡Viva Franco! ¡Arriba España!*

Interestingly, Laurie Lee was visiting Campbell in Toledo when the war in Spain broke out. Lee, shocked by the poverty of the Andalusian peasantry, fought in the International Brigades, but Campbell, horrified by the Communist massacres of the clergy of Toledo, made propaganda for Franco. In such ways do the same events affect even friends differently.

Campbell was a staunch anti-Nazi, who went on to fight in the British Army in the Second World War, but still could not work his passage back into literary London afterwards. "It made no difference that one fought as willingly against Fascism as one had done against Bolshevism previously," he complained. "Even if you killed ten times as many Fascists as you had previously killed Bolsheviks in self-defence, you still remained a Fascist" (pp. 279-280). Given the tone of the foreword to *The Flowering Rifle*, it is surprising that he thought that he might be forgiven in the post-1945 climate.

From England to Ireland. One of the most remarkable of the many extraordinary men who fought on both sides in Spain was General Eoin O'Duffy. Born in Co. Monaghan in 1892, O'Duffy did not see service in the First World War, because the British government did not dare to impose conscription in the disaffected south of Ireland. He was radicalised against British rule by the executions of many of the survivors of the Dublin Easter rising of 1916, and joined the Irish Republican Brotherhood (forerunner of the IRA) in the troubled years that followed. In February 1920, he became the first IRB commander to capture a Royal Irish Constabulary barracks at Ballytrain, Co. Monaghan, after personally setting a bomb that blew a large hole in the wall, through which he boldly walked in front of his men, to take the surrender of the demoralised policemen.

In January 1922 O'Duffy became Chief of Staff of the IRA through the patronage of the legendary Michael Collins, to whom O'Duffy always remained fiercely loyal.

By then negotiations were afoot with the British government to set up an Irish Free State, *Saorstát Éireann,* in a messy compromise that eventually involved excluding the six mainly Protestant counties in the north. Bitter divisions in Irish nationalist ranks followed, leading to a second civil war between the supporters and opponents of the treaty establishing the Free State.

Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins led the pro-treaty forces, while the anti-treaty forces were led by Eamon de Valera, who would not accept the Ulster opt out or Dominion status (rather than full independence) for the new state. O'Duffy strongly supported his old friend Michael Collins, who was killed by De Valera's anti-treaty irregulars, in an ambush at Béal na Bláth, County Cork in August 1922.

De Valera was, as it happened, of mixed Spanish and Irish descent. O'Duffy cannot have anticipated that one day he and not "Dev" would fight on Spanish soil. He was too busy fighting his former comrades in Ireland, masterminding an amphibious assault upon Limerick to take it for the Free State in July 1922.

As a reward for his services to the Free State, he was promoted to the rank of general in its army. He was the youngest general in Europe until Francisco Franco was promoted to that rank, another bizarre Spanish coincidence in his life.

In September 1922, the Free State's ruthless and brilliant security chief, Kevin O'Higgins (whom the IRA later murdered) made O'Duffy Commissioner of its police force, the *Garda Síochána.* Both the Free State army and Dublin C. I. D. merrily ran death squads that revenged themselves by various gruesome means on the IRA for the murders of Free State officers.

For many years after 1922, the Free Staters' party, *Cumann na nGaedheal*, the Clan of the Gael, dominated Irish political life, not least because the more extreme Republicans refused to sit in an Irish parliament that did not legislate for the whole island of Ireland.

In the end, however, de Valera gave up on armed struggle, seeing that he had no hope of overthrowing either the government of Northern Ireland at Stormont or the Free State government by force. Instead he engaged in the democratic process out of expediency rather than conviction, forming the political party called Fianna Fáil, which means the "Soldiers of Destiny". "Fianna Fáil is a slightly constitutional party, above all it is a Republican party" mused de Valera's number two, Sean Lemass (who went on to become taoiseach or prime minister of the Irish Republic many decades after).

Economic troubles arising out of the Great Depression (for which *Cumann na nGaedheal* could scarcely be blamed) led to a general election in 1933 that Fianna Fail won. Éamon de Valera promptly dismissed O'Duffy as Garda Commissioner, which is not entirely surprising as O'Duffy had urged outgoing *Cumann na nGaedheal taoiseach* W. T. Cosgrave to lead a military coup rather than allow Fianna Fáil to take power. Cosgrave politely declined.

Once in power, Fianna Fáil repealed the Free State laws making membership of the IRA a capital offence. The emboldened IRA promptly began murdering Cumann na nGaedheal supporters. After a particularly vicious double murder in County Donegal of two brothers, both *Cumann na nGaedheal Teachta Dála,* or members of the Irish Parliament, which the Garda seemed curiously unwilling to investigate with any vigour, it was clear that

Cumann na nGaedheal would have to form self-defence squads to protect its leading members and meetings from IRA violence.

The euphemistically named Army Comrades Association, ostensibly a mutual support network for discharged Free State army soldiers, but really a paramilitary squadist organisation, soon filled this role, with O'Duffy in charge after 1932. He dressed his strong arm men in blue shirts (p. 122), in obvious emulation of Mussolini's black shirts. Soon the Blue Shirts had 50,000 members. In August 1933 they merged with Cumann na nGaedheal and the small Centre Party to form Fine Gael, now the leading party in the ruling coalition government of the Irish Republic.

O'Duffy was the first leader of Fine Gael. He must be an embarrassing political ancestor (to say the least) for the rather liberal Fine Gael of our time, with his public musings about the glories of Mussolini's Italy, the failings of democracy and the need for a strong man to lead the nation unfettered by constitutional niceties. It is not difficult to guess who O'Duffy thought might fill the role of Ireland's Mussolini.

Even though Fine Gael did rather well at the polls under O'Duffy's leadership, the party leadership was deeply troubled by Blue Shirt violence and their leader's musings about a possible coup. O'Duffy was forced out, and formed a little party of his own, the National Corporate Party, who now adopted green rather than blue shirts.

The NCP was not a success. O'Duffy, who had fallen from a great height as leader of the opposition, fretted at his small role in a country of only three million people, and looked for a broader stage. He sought to recruit Irish volunteers to join Mussolini's army in Ethiopia, but the Italian dictator refused the offer of help, as there was no shortage of men willing to go in Italy itself. The outbreak of war in Spain was to give O'Duffy the opportunity for which he longed.

Catholic Ireland was horrified by the anti-Catholic outrages of the Spanish Left. All over the Republican zone, priests, monks and nuns were murdered. Nationalist propaganda exaggerated the numbers of victims, but the fact of such murders cannot be disputed. One heroine of the Republican side, the deranged Stalinist, Dolores Ibarruri, known as la Pasionaria (who was so insane as to claim with every appearance of believing her own mad fables that the Anarchists and Trotskyites on her own side were in league with Franco and Hitler, so justifying their wholesale liquidation) boasted of tearing out the throats of priests with her own teeth, when not too busy shooting, stabbing or clubbing "splitists" to death. There is a statue in this evil hag's memory in Glasgow. If she had murdered rabbis, it is safe to assume that she should not be so honoured, while if she had murdered imams, the statue would no doubt go up with a loud bang! Murdering priests is, however, apparently just fine by the municipal authorities of that city, despite its large Catholic population.

Such actions did not go down well in Old Ireland, where Monsignor Patrick Sexton, Dean of Cork, explained to a mass rally of 40,000 people that they were the work of "a gang of murderous Jews in Moscow." (p. 124) That was rather unfair, as the Spanish reds were all gentiles and lapsed Catholics, while by this time a pair of murderous Georgians in Moscow were working their way through the largely Jewish Old Bolsheviks with gusto, but one can well suppose that the first objection was not deemed expedient to utter, while news of the second had not yet got through to Cork.

O'Duffy saw his chance for glory, and a come back in Irish politics, by offering to lead a force of 5,000 Irish volunteers to fight in Spain. Franco, who was confident of victory without the help of foreign glory hunters, was not keen, but O'Duffy was not one to give up. He sent representatives to Berlin, who persuaded the Nazi regime to provide a ship, the *Urundi*, which in scenes that sound incredible but are quite true, anchored at Galway on 12th December 1936 under the swastika flag to pick up 500 Irish volunteers to join 200 already in Spain, setting sail for El Ferrol (as it happens, Franco's birthplace).

"A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year for a journey, and such a long journey" wrote the poet T.S. Eliot. The Irish had cause aplenty to agree, as they were landsmen almost to a man, and suffered horribly from sea sickness.

On arrival they were enrolled into XV bandera of the Spanish Foreign Legion and kitted out in First World War surplus German uniforms with silver Irish harps on their lapels (p. 131). Two British volunteers and an Indian from Hyderabad were allotted to the XV bandera as interpreters, though the Irish did not care for the two British upper class officers, as most of them were old IRA men, with whom O'Duffy had somewhat surprisingly patched up his differences, even though he had killed so many of their comrades.

O'Duffy wished to bring more men over from the old country, but Franco would not provide a ship, so no more than 700 Irish fought in the Nationalist cause. About 150 fought for the Republic.

War turned out to be hell, as it usually is. The XV bandera suffered heavy casualties at Titulcia, and morale plummeted. Dysentery ravaged the Irish brigade. The wages promised to the volunteers' families were not paid regularly, so wives and children suffered back home in Ireland, which did nothing for already wilting morale. By 25th May 1937, after less than six months in Spain, Franco had decided to repatriate O'Duffy's unit, whose indiscipline made them more trouble than they were worth, especially as (with all the foreign volunteers on both sides) too few liaison officers were available to integrate non-Spanish speakers into the chain of command.

A few years later, with Operation Barbarossa underway, O'Duffy, nothing daunted, was at it again, offering the Germans an Irish brigade to join the other foreign volunteers in Russia (amongst whom the Spanish Blue Division was numbered. Its inadequately clad and fed men fought with the fierce courage for which Spanish soldiers are renowned to the very end. Some of the last defenders of the Fuehrerbunker in May 1945 were Spanish veterans of the Blue Division).

The Germans, well informed of the problems that Franco had with O'Duffy's unit, would not accept his offer, so callously depriving war gamers of an Irish Waffen SS Unit to play at Stalingrad recreations!

O'Duffy died of drink, a bitterly disappointed man, on 30th November 1944, at the age of only 52. Surprisingly, his old enemy De Valera, granted him the honour of a state funeral.

We have already seen that many American Communists fought for the Republic in the XV International Brigade (formed of the Abraham Lincoln and George Washington battalions). A rare American volunteer on the Nationalist side was Vincenzo Patriarca, an Italian American from the poor New York borough of the Bronx.

Born in 1913, Patriarca grew up amidst the hardships of the Great Depression. The American dream had failed him, but his ancestral Italy was to prove kinder. Patriarca's great love was flying, but he could not see his way to fulfilling it in America. Mussolini had a programme called "Italians abroad" which encouraged disillusioned emigrants to return home to good jobs, which fascist Italy was well able to provide.

Patriarca's dream came true. He signed up in the Italian air force and became a pilot, serving in the invasion of Ethiopia. Much to his chagrin, he was invalided out with an ulcerated stomach, but while he recuperated, a Spanish Nationalist on the look out for likely recruits in Rome signed him up in Franco's air force.

Patriarca had an exciting time of it to say the least, bringing down a noted Republican ace, Felix Urtubi Ercilla, by the unconventional method of ramming his plane in what seemed an act of mutually assured destruction! Surprisingly, he lived to tell the tale by making a successful parachute jump, unlike Urtubi, who crash landed and was killed. An American passport can be a very useful thing. Patriarca landed behind Republican lines, and was immediately picked up by a patrol, which would unquestionably have shot him on the spot, if he had not waved his U. S. passport at them, causing them pause for thought.

The Republicans took him to Madrid, where, after several weeks in a Red prison waiting his turn to be shot with the other prisoners, whom the Republicans were executing in batches, he was released into the custody of the U. S. Embassy, and repatriated to New York.

Patriarca loved flying and did not care for a life of boredom and poverty back in the Bronx. Soon he was back in Italy again, and back in the air force, in which he served during the Second World War, shooting down a British Wellington bomber over Naples in 1941.

After the Allied invasion of Italy, he was behind German lines, and at first refused to serve further, but was persuaded by Mussolini's own son, Vittorio, to sign up in the air force of Mussolini's Salo republic, serving till the end of the war. He then served in the air force of the post-war Italian state, dying in 1994. His dream of flying came true, and how!

All in all then, a fascinating work, the product of much original research and interviews with the last veterans of the Spanish Civil War, in some cases shortly before their deaths. The book is not perfect (there are both English and Spanish spelling mistakes, though only a few) and the author is not one of us, but he is reasonably fair, the subject matter is gripping and the stories well told. I shall not be parting with my copy.

Reviewed by Adrian Davies, Kent, England

BNP in the Last Chance Saloon

2014 Local Elections

Though elections are never entirely predictable, few punters will be risking any money on the chances of the BNP winning even a single council seat anywhere this year. The declining numbers of BNP candidates reflect the sorry story of corruption and incompetence that is Nick Griffin's legacy.

In 2010 (when this year's seats were last contested) there were 739 BNP council candidates nationwide, including the London boroughs as well as English district and city councils. This year there were 114.

As has become a common sight at each point in the arc of BNP decline, some former strongholds have collapsed completely, and the party has only been saved from complete embarrassment by the continued (though no doubt temporary) loyalty of a handful of branches.

Among the most spectacular disasters were Barking & Dagenham, once the BNP's flagship borough where the party formed the official opposition, but can now muster only four candidates, and Burnley, the town where the party made its initial breakthrough in 2002 and again became the official opposition, but where years of decline and Griffinite cronyism have reduced the BNP to a feeble couple of candidates. Even in Hapton with Park, the Burnley ward which once elected a full set of three BNP councillors, there will be no BNP candidate this year.

England's second city Birmingham, where the BNP had a full slate of 40 candidates eight years ago, now manages only three.

Across Yorkshire, North East and North West England a sad parade of defunct BNP branches total precisely zero candidates from an entire list of former strongholds that once put up strong challenges to the political establishment, and in some cases full slates. These include Sunderland, Newcastle, Gateshead, Leeds, Kirklees, Barnsley, Wakefield, Bradford, Blackburn with Darwen, Oldham, and Liverpool.

Formerly hot nationalist prospects elsewhere in England which similarly have seen a total BNP wipeout include the Black Country racial battleground of Sandwell, and three Essex white flight boroughs now overtaken by the ever swelling tide of migration: Thurrock, Epping Forest and Southend.

One of the strangest features of this year's BNP tragedy is in Rotherham, where one of the BNP's best known candidates, Marlene Guest, is heading the party's European slate for the entire Yorkshire region, but is not contesting a council seat in her own town. In fact there are no BNP candidates anywhere in Rotherham, where the party once held a couple of council seats and where at parliamentary level Mrs Guest herself took 10.4% for the BNP at the 2010 general election.

The only BNP councillor defending a seat this year anywhere in the country is Brian Parker, two-term councillor for Marsden ward, Pendle, where he is one of only two BNP candidates this year across the borough. Cllr Parker held on in 2010 by just 28 votes, and since he now faces UKIP opposition will do well to avoid abject humiliation.

In most of the London boroughs the BNP has faded, though regional organiser Steve Squire will be happy to have fielded six candidates in his home borough of Enfield (up from four last time), and most impressively 21 candidates in Bexley (down from 26 last time but by far the largest BNP slate anywhere this year). The deeply divided Croydon BNP branch has nevertheless managed to put up five candidates.

Other islands of Griffinite loyalty in an ocean of disillusion are Salford (five candidates), Stockport (seven candidates), Worcester (eight candidates) and Coventry (thirteen candidates).

The usual pattern though, even where the party has not become completely extinct, is for just one or two old retainers to remain loyal to their Welshpool lord. Once strong branches such as Amber Valley (which once had two BNP councillors), Dudley (where Griffin's lieutenant Simon Darby was once a councillor), Wigan and Bolton have been reduced to a single candidate apiece. Tameside, Manchester and Wolverhampton fare little better with only two candidates each.

The battle in many former BNP strongholds has already been conceded: the best the party can now hope for is to retain a shred of credibility in a few branches which have remained loyal to Griffin. The only remaining question is the scale of the BNP defeat. Even now Griffin is understood to be preparing post-election excuses, and a new strategy which will virtually abandon electoral politics. His only concern is how to sell this strategy to donors and legators.

The Essex NF team at the 2012 election count, some of whom will be reunited for this year's campaign: (*far left*) Karne McGinn, (*second left*) Derek Beackon, the first ever BNP councillor elected in 1993, (*second right*) Tilbury NF candidate Mick Griffin, (*far right*) Grays NF candidate Tom Davis.

The post-Griffin nationalist picture has yet to come into focus. Seven candidates will stand this year for the new British Democratic Party: three for Newcastle City Council, two for Bradford City Council, one for Leeds City Council and one in the London Borough of Redbridge. The latter is Julian Leppert, BNP candidate for Mayor of London in 2004 and councillor for Hainault ward from 2006 to 2010: he will contest Hainault as a Brit Dem this year.

In charge of the Newcastle campaign – the only serious nationalist election effort in the entire North-East region this year – is Ken Booth, former North East regional organiser for the BNP and earlier still for the NF, who this year takes on the city council's Labour leader Lord Beecham in Benwell ward.

The legal confusion surrounding the National Front has meant that only the faction supporting Ian Edward is able to use the NF name on ballot papers this year. Party chairman Edward will stand in his usual West London territory: Harefield ward, Hillingdon, where he polled 13.9% as runner-up in 2006. His combative factional ally Bernadette Jaggers will once again contest Victoria ward, Southend, where this year she is the only nationalist candidate in the entire borough. Two NF candidates including newly appointed party treasurer Thomas Beaney will stand in Basildon, while the brightest National Front prospect is probably Mick Griffin in Tilbury Riverside and Thurrock Park ward, Thurrock. Mr Griffin finished runner-up in the neighbouring Tilbury St Chad's ward with 16.9% two years ago.

The rival NF faction headed by Kevin Bryan and Eddy Morrison has mostly been forced to sit out this campaign and will have to consider its options later this year. Three of their activists are standing as Independents: former BNP national organiser Richard Edmonds in Worcester Park ward, Sutton; Tess Culnane in Downham ward, Lewisham; and Tony Martin in Croham ward, Croydon.

A very different BNP veteran standing as an independent this year is the millionaire businessman Paul Cromie, who was elected for the BNP in Queensbury ward, Bradford, in 2010 but quit alongside his wife and fellow councillor Lynda to sit as an independent in 2012. Cllr Cromie is likely to have a tough task retaining his seat as an independent, especially as he now has UKIP opposition.

Another big name from the recent nationalist past is standing under an unfamiliar banner in Blackburn with Darwen. Simon Bennett was the BNP's North West regional press officer, and key architect alongside Steve Smith of the party's breakthrough victories in Burnley in 2002 and 2003. He later quit the BNP (like so many others) and was England First Party

candidate for Queensgate ward, Burnley, in 2007 when he polled 25.6%.

This year Mr Bennett is Conservative candidate for Ewood ward, Blackburn, where he is in a straight fight against Labour. *H&D* understands that Mr Bennett could have been UKIP candidate, but owing to the fixed policy of Nigel Farage's party to exclude anyone who has previously been a BNP member that was not possible. The Conservative Party proved more accommodating, which is perhaps not that surprising, since until 2004 Blackburn Conservatives had a councillor in Meadowhead ward (Eddie Harrison) who had been both a member and canidate of the National Front and John Kingsley Read's NF breakaway group, the National Party, which was based in Blackburn.

Relics of later NF splits will be standing in two London boroughs. Phil Andrews (best known for what Martin Webster described as "gleeful comments" about the murder of WPC Yvonne Fletcher by Libyan Embassy gunmen, at a time when Andrews was promoting the political tracts of Libyan leader Col. Gadhafi) will be trying to regain the Hounslow council seat he lost in 2010, having reorganised his Isleworth Community Group on a cross-borough basis. Meanwhile in Havering the former NF deputy chairman Graham Williamson – who joined Andrews and Nick Griffin in the 'political soldier' faction of the mid-1980s before departing in yet another split in 1988 to join Patrick Harrington in 'Third Way' – is leading a 'National Liberal Party' slate in both the borough elections and in the London-wide contest for the European Parliament.

Some of the BNP's best activists – principally Eddy Butler in Epping Forest, Chris Beverley in the Leeds suburb of Morley, and Ian Sutton in Barnsley – quit in 2011 to join the English Democrats. Of this faction Mr Butler has (at least temporarily) dropped out of politics; Mr Beverley had moved across the borough boundary into Wakefield and though heading the EDs' Yorkshire regional slate for Europe, will not be standing for the council; leaving only Mr Sutton still campaigning at local level. His slate of seven candidates in Barnsley will be one of the few strong ED local campaigns this year.

There will be no local council election candidates this year from Gary Raikes New British Union, Dr. Andrew Emerson's Patria Party, or Jim Dowson's Britain First party (although BF are fighting two European Regions - see page 7).

UKIP – whose leaders previously concentrated on European elections and gave little or no priority to local council contests – has begun to be a serious force in local government. When this year's seats were last contested in 2010, UKIP won only one, but has since acquired many more through defections, including four from Labour in the former BNP stronghold of Barking & Dagenham.

Although UKIP attracts many former nationalist voters in working class areas, it has failed to put down serious organisational roots in racial battlegrounds such as Oldham and Blackburn. Part of the problem is that in contrast to parliamentary (and even county council) elections, candidates in borough elections actually have to live within the precincts of the borough concerned, except for a few who qualify through owning property or businesses in the area.

This year UKIP will be under pressure to perform well in wards that they have hitherto avoided, but where the BNP or other radical nationalist parties have previously polled well. Our next issue will reflect on whether UKIP manages to improve on BNP and EFP votes in places like the Heanor wards in Amber Valley; Ribbleton ward, Preston; Tipton Green ward, Sandwell; and perhaps most interestingly a number of wards in Rotherham and Barking & Dagenham.

Despite a strong showing at the 2011 parliamentary by-election in Oldham East & Saddleworth, UKIP has until now failed to build a strong branch in Oldham. A few weeks before this year's elections however Nigel Farage's party finally made an impact in local politics here, securing the defection of former Labour councillor Joe Fitzpatrick, who had been election agent for ex-MP Phil Woolas.

Mr Fitzpatrick has quit Labour after the party disciplined veteran councillor Hugh McDonald for leaking his concerns about the council's approach to child protection. He will stand for UKIP in a dual vacancy election in his former Oldham ward St James's – where the BNP's Roy Goodwin finished runner-up in 2002 with 41.9%: Oldham BNP's finest hour. Mr Fitzpatrick should remember that election well – he was the Labour candidate whom we beat into a poor third place!

Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

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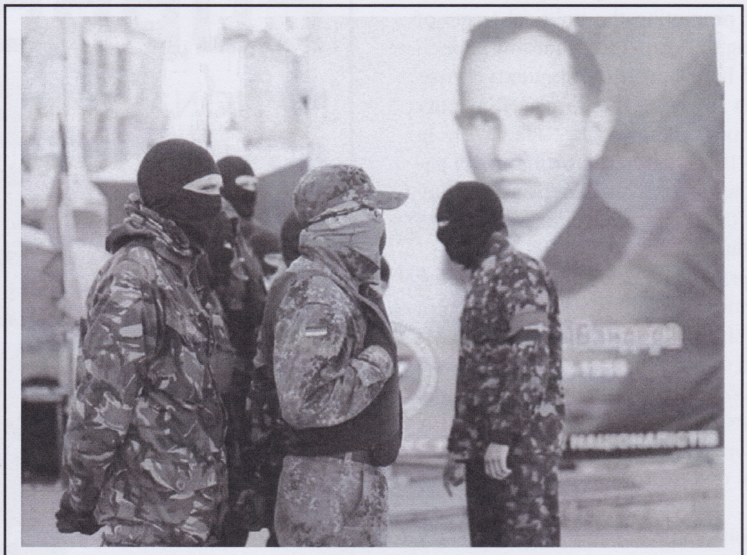
Ukraine Crisis – a new perspective

I am writing this article to help interested persons make head or tail of the ongoing shambles that is the situation in the Ukraine and to give some (hopefully accurate) information about the main players in the situation. One of the things that has driven me to contacting the *H&D* team to offer to write this article has been the disgraceful, shallow, ill-informed coverage in much of the UK Press.

The coverage on the two main TV News providers, BBC and ITN has been pathetic and has been propagandising an EU version of events (I will give some examples in the article of this). Most of the print media has been nearly as bad. In fairness in the past few weeks, since mid-Feb, the *Daily Mail* has started to take the situation seriously and provided much more accurate coverage particularly in some of the op-eds. The best TV news coverage has been from *Al-Jazeera* (AJ). I suppose *AJ* is giving unbiased coverage on the simple grounds that as an Islamic funded broadcaster they have no particular brief for any of the parties in the region. There is also a channel for non EU tainted coverage on *Russia Today* (RT). *RT* is as you would expect pro-Russian putting the official 'Moscow spin' on all its reporting. It is also on occasions hilariously technically incompetent and some of its presenters speak very strongly accented English (some of the other staff are, however, West European).



Paramilitaries of the Ukrainian nationalist 'right sector' on the streets of Kiev: in the background is a banner depicting their spiritual leader Stepan Bandera, wartime leader of the Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists.

The first thing to get straight about the situation is the claim that the document that Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych refused to sign was an 'EU Trade Pact' (or similar names). The fact is that this was an innocuous and misleading wrapper put around a preliminary agreement for the Ukraine to start accession procedures with the EU: a process that can take decades (for example Turkey!). Why was this misleading name used? In the discussion that follows please note the difference between 'Europe' and the 'EU'. Some reporters use the two names interchangeably. They are not the same. Europe is a geographical entity, a continent, consisting of over 40 countries. The EU is a group of 28 countries within Europe that have decided democratically (!) to form a supranational bloc. Reasons for using the misleading name for the rejected treaty are numerous and include :

a) Attempting to hide the real nature of the EU attempt to expand its bloc up to the Russian boundary. The EU were perfectly aware that if Russia realised what was happening Putin had two 'weapons' at his disposal. The first is that much of the population in Southern and Eastern Ukraine is pro-Russian (Russian speaking and often Russian Orthodox). These peoples would much prefer the Ukraine to increase its links with Russia rather than the EU and Putin could easily motivate then into vociferously objecting to the proposed treaty.

The other weapon is that Russia supplies Ukraine with its oil and gas and the Ukraine regularly owes Russia for unpaid deliveries. For example at 1st March the unpaid balance was approx $1.59 billion (approx £980 million). Russia can (and has in the past) cut off Ukrainian fuel deliveries in mid winter using the unpaid balance as an excuse. A collateral result of this is that some other EU countries lose some of their oil/gas deliveries as they use the pipelines running through the Ukraine.

b) The EU was perfectly well aware that many Ukrainians while perfectly happy to see the Ukraine increase its links to Western Europe would not be keen to seek accession to the EU. After all having got out of one supranational bloc in 1992 why would anyone want to join another such bloc? The image many East Europeans have of the EU is of another expansionist supranational bloc led by a bureaucracy which comes up with the same incompetent decision making as occurred in the Soviet bloc (see discussion and comment programs on *RT* to see this stereotype regularly repeated). A further image problem for the EU is that many people around the world see it as a putative 'Fourth Reich' dominated by Germany! Accurate or not most Ukrainians have bad memories of their last involvement with Germany.

c) Many of the EU's social and cultural standards expected of accession nations are inimical to the Ukrainian people. As one example out of many countries acceding to the EU are expected to legitimize same sex marriage. This has already caused a problem with the latest accession nation, Croatia, a proudly Catholic country, where a national referendum has rejected same sex marriage. The Ukrainians are also proudly religious and the majority object to same sex marriage. In fact most Ukrainians didn't realise involvement with the EU included support for same sex marriage until an advertising campaign in the local Press – the campaign was paid for by an oligarch who is a friend of Vladimir Putin.

Having disposed of the narrative that the Ukrainian President was signing up to a Trade Pact there is of course one simple fact that has to be recognised. President Yanukovych was a democratically elected President. If a democratically elected President wishes to change his mind before signing up to a Treaty that is his prerogative in a democracy and that is no reason for his overthrow. To give an obvious example you are perfectly entitled to walk away from a potential house purchase provided you have not 'exchanged' contracts. The worse that can happen is you might have to pay some fees for solicitors/valuer etc.

Who was behind the rioting mob in Kiev that used the non-signature of the Trade Treaty as an excuse for a coup? Two answers actually: the US and the EU. The US has for the past two decades pursued a policy of trying to detach the former Soviet Republics from the Russian economic sphere into the Western sphere including such little sweeteners as 'candidate member of NATO' status. One of the most famous examples of this was Georgia. The Georgian government expected that in the event of a border dispute with Russia NATO would intervene, all guns blazing. Instead during the South Ossetia crisis all they got was French President Sarkozy to negotiate a ceasefire!

One of the most active members of the US State Dept. during these operations has been Assistant Sec of State Victoria 'F*** the EU' Nuland. Unlike many of the staff at her level who are short term political appointees Nuland is a career diplomat starting her career some 20 years ago in the Clinton Era. Like Bush-era Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, Nuland is a Sovietologist. Nuland was in Kiev a few months ago handing out cookies to demonstrators. More recently she was caught on the phone giving her (very accurate) opinion of the EU and discussing with the US ambassador to the Ukraine who should be members of a new Ukrainian government. Hardly the actions of a 'neutral' power in the overthrow of Yanukovych.

Another American visitor to Kiev was Senator John McCain who, although a Republican, is usually on the same side as Obama/Kerry on Foreign Affairs agendas. McCain was speaking on a platform in Kiev alongside a leader of the Ukrainian Nationalist Party Svoboda. The Svoboda leader is so extreme he is barred from entry to the US by the State Department but that didn't deter McCain from supporting him.

In the case of the EU the situation is quite comical. Both Polish and German Foreign Ministers have stood in the Kiev 'Maidan' supporting the anti-government demonstrators. There have also been the endless visitations from EU 'Foreign affairs chief' Baroness Ashton. The German Foreign Minister (until mid-December 2013) Guido Westerwelle spoke alongside Svoboda leaders. Westerwelle is openly gay, Svoboda is openly violently homophobic. Strange bedfellows!

What help did the US and the EU give to the democratic demonstrators overthrowing Yanukovych? A lot! Funding people to stay for months in the Maidan and various other locations where demonstrators set up encampments, food, tents, field kitchens, support for the campaign through the Press and TV material wasn't cheap. It is estimated that since the early 1990s the US has spent $5 billion (approx £3.1 billion) [S3 & S4]. This money is channelled through political parties, charities, NGOs etc. The EU is estimated to have spent at least $1 billion (£620 million). S1 suggests that demonstrators are typically being paid Eu 8-25 (£7-£20) per day funnelled through NGOs such as the German 'Konrad Adenauer Stiftung' (a foundation linked to Merkel's CDU Party). S2 lists payments made to a range of small NGOs/charities.

The final straw in the overthrow of Yanukovych was the infamous 'snipers' incident in which he is alleged to have ordered snipers to fire upon demonstrators, his own fellow countrymen, causing approx 80 fatalities. The strange thing about this incident is that no one has apparently succeeded in arresting or killing one or more of any of these snipers, We do not know who they were, their names, ethnicity, what uniforms (if any) they were wearing. In fact we haven't even been told the calibre and type of ammunition they were using which would usually be available from post mortems. How convenient those snipers were in causing public hatred of Yanukovych who effectively had to flee the country to avoid a lynching. But we have a credible report (S5) that it appears the 'snipers' had also fired on government police and that they had been set in place by someone involved with the new government. Both the new government and Baroness Ashton have not been in any hurry to set up any enquiry into who the snipers were and who ordered them. Could it have been yet another 'false flag' operation?

At this point I am going to point out a legal fact on which Putin is wrong. Regardless of whether or not the 'snipers' incident for which Yanukovych is now facing an arrest warrant from the Ukrainian Parliament was faked or not, there is *prima facie* evidence Yanukovych is guilty of fraud, embezzlement and abuse of office in all the villas seized, documents found, accounts frozen etc after he absconded. There are also reports that he suffered a severe heart attack after fleeing the country. So he cannot continue to be President as if he was still in the Ukraine he would be facing financial charges or too ill to carry out his duties.

The next in line to the Presidency according to the Ukrainian Constitution is the Speaker of the Parliament (by the way in the US Constitution the third in line to the Presidency is the Speaker of the House). Similarly most of the government ministers having either resigned or absconded an interim government had to be appointed. Quite correctly since the interim President and government lack a mandate, election dates had been brought forward so that a new government has a democratic mandate. Despite proceeding in a constitutionally correct manner the Russians have said wrongly that they will not recognise the Interim President and Prime Minister. They cannot even claim the Interim President is a 'neo-nazi'. The Interim President Oleksandr Turchynov is from the 'Fatherland' Party.

The Fatherland Party is a moderate centrist pro-Capitalist Party. In addition to a national minimum wage, increased pensions, a simplified taxation system, business-friendly policies, adoption of jury trials and a strong range of anti-corruption measures the Party is pro-EU. The Party has been an 'Observer Member' of the European People's Party in the EU since 2008. The Party's manifesto makes no mention of joining NATO and calls for "a mutually beneficial and equitable agreement on the establishment of free trade with Russia". (Source – Fatherland Party policies S6).

The Party's current leader since her release from imprisonment is Yulia Tymoshenko. Tymoshenko has of course been Prime Minister of the Ukraine before on previous occasions. Her previous governments (she has led governments consisting of various amalgams of parties/blocs over the years) have always been accepted as democratically elected by voters across the Ukraine, even by those voters who have voted for different parties. She has successfully dealt with the Russian government in various negotiations over the years. "Russian Prime Minister (now President again) Vladimir Putin has stated (in November 2009) he found it comfortable to work with his (then) Ukrainian counterpart Yulia Tymoshenko and also praised her for strengthening Ukrainian sovereignty and building stable ties with Moscow and called the second Tymoshenko Government 'efficient and a force for stability'."(S7)

continued on page 24

The Nationalist Times

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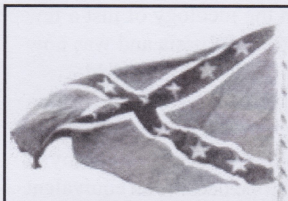

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Letters From Readers

Sir – Yet again the media seems to be using the issue of this year being the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War to bombard everybody with it. But the fact is that war is now as firmly a part of past history as the Boer or Crimean Wars are and has as much (or as less) relevance to British people living today as those wars do. Nobody has a clear memory of anyone killed in that war, anymore than they have of Britons who died in South Africa around 1900. Indeed the only effect the First World War has on anyone today is on the Germans, who lost huge chunks of territory at the end of that war. German families were forced from their homes at the point of French, Polish and Czech bayonets. This scene was repeated a quarter of a century later except that the Poles and Czechs were now themselves only the slaves of the USSR, and it was the Russians in 1945 who were in charge and pushing everyone around.

The truth is however that neither of the two world wars had anything to do with Western Europe – or America. Britain and France chose to involve themselves in a conflict between the Germans and the Slavs which had absolutely nothing to do with them. Up until the early 1900s Germany and Britain had been good friends: even the British royal family were part-German. In the 1930s Germany had held out the hand of friendship to Britain and made it clear that she harboured no hostile attentions to Britain at all. so all the British and French dead of both world wars are due solely to the actions and mad policies of their own governments of the day.

Also the constant vilification of the Germans from the 1940s onwards is not only wrong it is stupid, since many Brits are partly made up of Germanic racial stock, so by attacking them, we are really only attacking and vilifying ourselves!

The outcome of the First World War was not a safer or more peaceful Europe, but the direct opposite. Rampant Capitalism which until then had been largely confined to America was transferred to western and central Europe. Communism which likewise until then had been the ideology of just a few desperate groups of malcontents, had taken control of Russia and was now able to spread that foul contagion to Europe and the rest of the world.

The Second World War was even worse for Europe: it led to the extinction of Germany altogether. The rump of that once great nation is truly a pitiful sight to behold. For nearly half a century Western Europe became a colony of the American capitalist empire, whilst Eastern Europe became an equivalent colony of the Russian Communist Empire, which only ended as far as Russia was concerned when communism collapsed in the late 1980s, as it was bound to do because it was a house built on sand anyway. What we are left with is this thing called the European Union, which really has nothing to do with the interests of Europe, but is in reality only a satrap for its real American capitalist rulers.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. J. Chapman, London, England

Sir – Bravo to another splendid issue of *H&D*. There are two things I very much admire about *H&D* magazine. The first is the broad-church, non-sectarian, pan-nationalist stance you take towards the various strands of Nationalism/ Identitarianism (your refusal to get bogged down in petty factional squabbles is admirable), and the other is the high quality and excellent variety of articles – those by Peter Rushton and Ian Freeman are among my favourite. I would join Ian Freeman in adding my encouragement to Kerry Bolton to write the book putting the case for the alternative to the Enemy's system. Finally I would like to say that the Editorial was spot on. Let's aim for the 1%. William Pierce didn't fail. He may not have left any marks of success that a materialist would recognise, but he sowed seeds in the minds of men. And that is the success we seek.

Regards

Jez Turner, The London Forum

Sir – How did "gay" come to mean homosexual? It usually takes some time for a new word or a new meaning of an established word to attain sufficient usage and acceptance to be added to the dictionary. Yet, it appears "gay" in its new meaning was foisted upon us all at once without anyone's input. If gays were really gay (happy in the older defined way), why

would they average twenty-seven "partners" over the course of a lifetime? So now we can't use gay in the former sense of happy without conjuring up thoughts of homosexuality or associating it with homosexuality. Does this also mean we can't be happy if we're not homosexuals? Oh, to return to the day when we really could be gay, more often than not associated with children's normal happy play.

Yours sincerely

Gary R. Spitale, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Sir – Do civilizations die because non-whites are permitted to infiltrate, remain within, and gradually dominate White societies which brings about a moral collapse, or does declining morality in White societies lead them to let their guard down and let in non-Whites which further exacerbates and hastens the downfall? Are these just stages of ongoing cycles in Western societies? Is a return to very pronounced White racial consciousness as in National Socialism necessary to reverse the retrograde movement in these societies or begin a healthy new cycle? Examining history through these lenses may be of more than academic interest.

Best Racial regards,

Valerie Haller, Colonial Beach, Virginia

Sir – I watched a Conservative Party election broadcast recently in which an Indian extolled the merits of a referendum on the EU. I have no problem with that. There is also going to be a Referendum on Scottish membership of the UK in September.

On the most important issue of the transformation of Britain into a multi-cultural society, and our subsequent displacement, the British have never been able to have a say, in a Referendum. The politicians of all parties have failed to control immigration and to stop it. Margaret Thatcher was elected on the immigration issue in 1979 and stole the NF vote at the time. It has now come to my attention that a school in England is going to be the first to teach English as a foreign language. All this is a gross betrayal of the electorate. You get the politicians you vote for. Did we not fight in the last World War to prevent a foreign invasion? At least that is what we are told.

Yours sincerely,

Milton Ellis, Newtown, Wales

Sir – Might I answer one point that troubled your reviewer Ian Freeman in his interesting review of Dr Kerry Bolton's *The Banking Swindle*? The suggestion that banks create credit far in excess of the sums deposited with them by savers is not correct. A bank cannot lend more than the total of its shareholders' funds and the money that people have lent to it by making deposits. If it tried to do so, it would go bankrupt. At the end of each day the clearing house works out what the banks owe to one another after netting off the movements of funds in each direction. So if customers of HSBC write cheques for £100,000,000 in favour of customers of Barclays, while customers of Barclays write cheques for £101,000,000 in favour of customers of HSBC, either Barclays sends £1,000,000 in cash around to HSBC in an armoured car, or more realistically, the accounts that HSBC and Barclays both maintain at the Bank of England are adjusted in HSBC's favour. While only £1,000,000 of central bank money actually changes hands, despite the enormous figures notionally moving in each direction, still if the movement

is all in one direction week after week (which will happen if a bank grants credits exceeding the total of shareholders' funds and deposits) after a while it will run out of central bank money and become insolvent.

The point is not that banks create credit far in excess of the sums deposited with them by savers, but that they create credit far in excess of the cash reserves that they hold themselves or keep on deposit at the Bank of England.

If all the depositors were to march in on the same day and ask to be repaid at once, any bank, even the mighty HSBC, which is the best capitalised of all our major banks, would quickly run out of cash. Of course that does not happen. The banks keep a sufficient reserve in hand to meet what they know through long experience will be demanded by their depositors from day to day, then a buffer on top (a much bigger buffer at a financially healthy and prudently managed bank such as HSBC than at a financially weak and recklessly managed bank, such as RBS under "Fred the Shred").

The conjuring trick lies in the fact that the depositors' money is both as a matter of the law of banker and customer and of practice available to the depositors on demand, while at the same time the bank has lent it all out and could not possibly get it back in short order. The bank is using customers' deposits as long term working capital, so leveraging its true capital (shareholders' funds) by a huge amount: approximately a factor of eight at HSBC, our best capitalised major bank, but a deranged factor of fifty at RBS under the old regime. It is this practice that arouse the ire of critics of fractional reserve banking, and differentiates FRB from an ordinary loan.

Since a bank earns money on the difference between the rate at which it borrows and the rate at which it lends, the higher the multiplier, the greater the profit, always supposing that the borrowers pay the bank. If they don't, the bank still has to pay the depositors and quickly loses all its capital (as Fred the Shred did for his shareholders, which served them right for entrusting the stewardship of a major bank to such a man). That is why retail banking is a very risky business, and not actually very profitable, contrary to popular belief.

Critics of FRB rarely mention either that the depositors benefit from the interest that the bank pays them or that the supposedly parasitic bankers risk their own capital to underwrite customers' deposits. Dr Bolton does not mention either of those awkward facts in his book.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Davies, Kent, England

Sir – I note in the film review in the last edition of your fine magazine a reference to Johnny Adair and 'C' Coy. UFF. Without wishing to denigrate their achievements in the war against IRA terrorism I would respectfully suggest that they were not, as you suggested, the only Loyalists who were rather good at eradicating terrorist vermin during the Troubles.

The palm for effective Fenian-fighting in my view belongs to the late Robin Jackson of Donaghmore, Co.Down and his comrades in the rest of Mid-Ulster UVF. A modest, self-effacing man who liked a quiet pint in a Loyalist bar, Mr Jackson, "Jacko" to his friends and "The Jackal" to his, and our country's, enemies, personally executed around 40 IRA/INLA murderers from the 1970s to the 1990s. His unit took the total IRA/INLA eradicated to around 100, thus probably saving thousands of innocent victims these murdering scum never lived to kill and maim.

Mr Jackson was a highly professional and competent soldier of Ulster. He took great pains to avoid "collateral damage" to civilians not being targeted.

He and his Mid-Ulster comrades were aided by intelligence information of IRA "players" supplied by those in the security forces who understood, as their political masters did not, that unscrupulous and morally depraved terrorists who think nothing of the Law of the Land cannot be fought within the legalistic strictures of that law as if they were a band of burglars. Trying to do so via Courts and Police procedures cost countless innocent lives as cunning IRA lawyers like Patrick Finucane ran rings around sundry bewigged buffoons to get their killer clients off on technicalities. The execution of Finucane, one act of justice for which Mr Jackson and comrades cannot claim credit, thus saved many innocent lives as his smooth tongue was silenced and the murderers it would have set free removed from circulation, sadly temporarily. Apart from terrorizing the terrorists, Mr Jackson and Mid-Ulster UVF also were involved in striking two mighty blows for Britain.

The first, in May 1974, was to give the Irish Republic, which in 1969-70 had set up and armed the Provisional IRA and was safehousing its leaders, a long overdue taste of their own medicine. The bomb attacks on Dublin and Monaghan repaid on the Republic the viciousness their Provo clients had been visiting on many towns and cities across Ulster for the previous five years, "returning the IRA's serve" as one Loyalist put it. The consequence was that the Dail hastily enacted anti-terror laws and used them to rein in the Provos at least to some extent. Whilst the Republic's general public lost any further stomach for sticking their noses into Ulster's affairs.

These intrepid and efficient soldiers of Ulster also played a part in securing the Province's British future by assisting in the large-scale import of South African arms in the late 1980s. Thus ensuring that Britons in Ulster would no longer have to go up against IRA Armalites with antique 1898 Mauser Gewehrs and Steyr-Mannlicher rifles, the latter made for the army of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, both run into Ulster in 1914, supplemented by a few locally-made versions of the Sterling submachine gun, a weapon with a very limited range. Cease-fires and Peace Processes or no, the substantial quantity of modern weapons then imported are still safe and will never be decommissioned. They are there to be used if ever the Republicans decide to have another go.

Robin Jackson died after a long illness in 1998, at the young age of 49. Those of us who had the privilege of knowing him miss a brave and modest warrior, a good friend to his friends, a determined and effective foe to his, and our country's, foes, and without doubt the most effective single enemy the IRA ever faced. Sadly he has not yet received the recognition from his country he deserved. A George Cross for gallantry and a knighthood at the least.

Yours faithfully,

Sandy Hutchinson, Richhill, County Armagh.

Sir – John Gray, Professor of "European Thought" at the London School of Economics, lists in a recent issue of the *New York Review of Books* what he wants to define as "the classical themes of the European far right" which he sees as "visibly renewed". Prof. Gray lists "suspicion or hatred of..." plus the point he puts first: "a wholesale rejection of established elites."

The intention behind all modern progress is the ruin of any independent authority challenge, which must be kept under so that no deceptions are confronted. The "left" protest is encouraged to split votes and support demos, as if modern mob rule (by "pressure") proves any authority.

Yours Sincerely,

Jamie Begg, B.A. Worthing, Sussex

Sir – I enjoyed your article in the latest issue of *H&D* on the train robber Ronnie Biggs and his brief flirtation with Oswald Mosley's (OM) Union Movement (UM). Although it should be noted, that a couple of the other members of the "gang" also had "right-wing" views. Billy McCann known as "The Ulsterman", who was one of the four robbers never caught, had strong racialist and Loyalist views. He was one of the key organisers of the robbery, but many think he was also an informant, and that is why he was never jailed. The other was the youngest member of the gang, Roy James who also shared Biggy's views. James who was a key contact with Ronald "Buster" Edwards, briefly met OM's youngest son Max Mosley at a couple of UM events in the early 1960s. Both Roy James and Max Mosley had a keen interest in motor racing. After James was released from jail in 1975 he produced the silver trophies given to Formula One promoters each year, due to his acquaintance with Bernie Ecclestone – who now also finds himself before the courts!

Keep up the good work with a first class magazine.

David Clough, Bournemouth, Dorset

Movement News Update

The last two months of by-elections before the start of the May 2014 election campaigns saw not a single nationalist candidate. This is the longest spell since the launch of *H&D* that we have gone without a nationalist election campaign.

UKIP continued to achieve respectable by-election results, but nothing spectacular. They would have been especially disappointed to be overshadowed by the Conservatives in Ramsbottom ward, **Bury**, on March 6th. This is a very white ward including a large council estate, where voters were alienated by the infantile left-wing posturing of the retiring Labour councillor, who had sent an email criticising a campaign to knit woollen hats for British troops in Afghanistan, and contrasting the Tory activists' willingness to engage in such knitting with their cuts to services for families here in the UK facing a cold winter. A predictable media mini-scandal resulted.

Somewhere behind all the synthetic outrage lurked a serious point about whether the lives of British troops (and the resources of British taxpayers) should be invested in an unwinnable conflict in Afghanistan. Yet Cllr Columbine's email illustrated the gross insensitivity and political tone deafness typical of many self-styled radicals (both Left and Right), giving the impression that striking the right political pose mattered more to her than the sacrifices of British soldiers, many of them from Lancashire.

Surprisingly in these circumstances UKIP polled only 11.8%, up from 9.2% in 2012, and finished in third place: the Conservatives gaining the seat with a 365 majority over Labour.

Dr. Peter Mosley, former BNP member, now Conservative Party councillor in South Kesteven, Lincolnshire

In our last issue I commented that UKIP had so far failed to fill the gap left by the dying BNP in some of that party's former strongholds: for example they had never fought an election in Heanor. Within a fortnight they did so!

In the Heanor West ward of **Amber Valley** (held by the BNP from 2008 to 2012) UKIP's first time candidate finished runner-up with 259 votes (23.0%), though this was less than half the Labour vote. This was one of five by-elections that week in which UKIP polled over 20%, though without coming anywhere near winning.

While there are numerous areas like Heanor where UKIP has so far failed to match the BNP's results from a few years ago, there were two examples on March 27th where first-time UKIP candidates substantially improved on earlier nationalist results. In St Anne's ward, **Sunderland**, where the last BNP candidate in 2008 managed 17.3%, UKIP finished second this year with 28.2%. While in Stone ward, **Dartford**, where the English Democrats had been a perennial presence in recent years polling between 12% and 15%, UKIP benefited from the EDs' absence this year to finish a strong third with 27.2%.

One reason for the EDs' failure to contest this Dartford by-election was the legal trouble currently besetting their main local organiser Steve Uncles, who appeared in Maidstone Crown Court on charges of electoral fraud relating to last year's county council elections. Mr Uncles will nevertheless remain the number one ED candidate for the European Parliament in the South East England region.

In the Belle Vue division of **Cumbria** County Council on April 10th, UKIP stood for the first time in an area where the BNP had polled 9.9% in 2009. Given that Nick Griffin's party offices are in Cumbria and it is home to his national elections officer Clive Jefferson, it was surprising the BNP failed to contest this by-election.

Just before a by-election in Aveland ward, **South Kesteven**, on March 13th the Conservative candidate Dr Peter Moseley was revealed as a former BNP activist. His name appeared on the 2008 BNP membership list which was widely leaked online. Media reports of his nationalist past did not prevent Dr Moseley, a local company director, from winning the by-election with a large majority.

Whereas UKIP has a policy of barring former BNP members (although not NF members), both the Conservatives and Labour now have councillors who are former BNP activists. Trevor Maxfield, ex-BNP organiser for Darwen, is Labour councillor for Earcroft ward, **Blackburn with Darwen**.

In the **French local government elections** – held over two rounds of voting on March 23rd and 30th – Marine Le Pen's National Front (FN) achieved its best ever results. The French system seems very strange to English readers: there are more than 36,000 *communes* with their own elected council and mayor, and these range in size from cities such as Paris with 2 million inhabitants, to tiny hamlets with fewer than twenty. France is the only democracy in the world which broadly retains the local government divisions of the 18th century, although the three largest cities (Paris, Lyons and Marseilles) have districts (*arrondissements*) with their own councils and mayors, as well as the overall city council and mayor,

The practical difficulty for the FN seeking inroads into this vast number of town halls has usually been compounded by the French two-round electoral system, where the leading two (or sometimes three) candidates from the first round progress to a run-off ballot seven days later. Even when the FN has achieved first or second place in the initial ballot, "anti-fascist" campaigns seek to persuade supporters of all rival parties to bury their traditional differences and unite behind the remaining anti-FN candidate.

The best ever FN local government results were in the 1990s, when they took control of four town halls. This year Marine Le Pen's party easily smashed that record, winning eleven *communes*. In one case – the former mining area Hénin-Beaumont in the Calais region – the FN won an outright victory in the first round.

Several FN victories came in their traditional strongholds in the south, where concerns over North African immigration have long been among the main political issues. In some of these areas representatives of the mainstream conservative party have begun to consider coalitions with the FN, previously shunned by their leaders. FN victories in southern France this year included the ancient south coast city of Béziers; Le Pontet, a suburb of Avignon; and the coastal resorts of Fréjus and Cogolin.

The biggest FN victory was in the seventh district of Marseilles, although the conservative UMP retained control of the overall Marseilles city council. At the previous municipal election in 2008 the FN had finished third in this district with 11.8%: this year they took 32.9% in the first round and won the run-off. In Marseilles overall the FN this year pushed the governing socialists into third place and qualified for the run-off ballot with 23.2%, though eventually losing to the UMP.

The FN advance – though considerable – should not be overstated. For example the party failed to regain Toulon, the south coast city that had been the most notable FN scalp during their only previous local election successes in 1996. This year Toulon surprisingly fell to the Socialists, who had disastrous results in most other areas. In another southern target, Perpignan, one of the FN's most high-profile candidates Louis Aliot (architect of the party's attempts to conciliate Israeli opinion) was beaten in the run-off by the conservative candidate, despite having led in the first round.

Most interesting this year has been Marine Le Pen's success in enhancing the FN's electoral appeal in depressed industrial areas, where voters once backed the Socialist or Communist parties. In addition to their first round victory in Hénin-Beaumont, the FN took control of town halls in Hayange, a steel town in Lorraine on France's north-eastern border; and Villers-Cotterêts, a small northern town in Picardy.

These former socialist areas are the key to Le Pen's likely success in this year's European elections. When I first encountered the FN in the mid-late 1980s, its founder Jean-Marie Le Pen was pursuing a Reagan-Thatcher style policy of militant anti-communism, with an economic policy which criticised the traditional French "big state" system. Rather like today's UKIP, Le Pen was then arguing for radical cuts in bloated state expenditure, lower taxes, free trade and privatisation.

Le Pen (and now his daughter and successor Marine) have completely reversed FN policy in recent years, and now argue that France has surrendered far too much to "Anglo-American" style politics. The FN condemns

neoconservative globalisation and has positioned itself as the only defender of traditional White working class voters abandoned by free trade, low tax, small state policies of the 21st century mainstream right and left.

On the other side of the Channel, UKIP's Nigel Farage tries to pursue both paths simultaneously, presenting his party to former Thatcherites in the South as pro-"enterprise", while in the North championing working class victims of the rampant capitalism he elsewhere endorses!

This sort of contradiction cannot be evaded for ever: notably in UKIP's case it pervades the party's confused immigration policy. Farage opportunistically poses as Britain's only anti-immigration political leader, while also maintaining that his party is colour-blind. Meanwhile as Andrew Brons points out in his new booklet, Farage stated in December 2013 in answer to a parliamentary question from Brons: "UKIP is not against immigration. We welcome immigration; we want immigration."

As *City AM* editor Allister Heath commented in a March 2014 television profile of Farage, this anti-immigration policy contradicts UKIP's entire free trade ethos. If the party ever had to resolve the clash between populist anti-immigration rhetoric on the one hand, and the demands of unfettered market capitalism on the other, I think *H&D* readers know which would end up being sacrificed!

Internal contradictions are also threatening the Dutch Freedom Party (PVV) of Geert Wilders, whose anti-Islamist populism had produced electoral success in one of Europe's traditionally liberal bastions. In fact it was Dutch liberalism – not any form of racial nationalism – that was the basis of Wilders' appeal, since he argued that conservative Muslim attitudes on social questions were a threat to Dutch traditions.

In a March 2014 speech Wilders implied that he wished to broaden his party's platform into an anti-immigration stance rather than mere Islamo-obsession. He rhetorically asked his audience at a rally in the Dutch capital The Hague: "Do you want more or fewer Moroccans in this city and in the Netherlands?" Predictably enough the crowd answered "Fewer!", to which Wilders replied: "We'll take care of that."

These relatively mild comments quickly exposed a fault line within Wilders' PVV. Many of his leading activists are genuine liberals: they really do see the problem as Islam rather than immigration, and in principle they have nothing against Moroccans or any other immigrant, so long as they abandon "extremist" Islamic doctrines. In the great "nature-nurture" divide over whether there are fundamental racial differences making it appropriate for different ethnic groups to live in their own communities, these liberals really do believe in the multiracial melting pot, just so long as it lacks the extra spice of militant Islam.

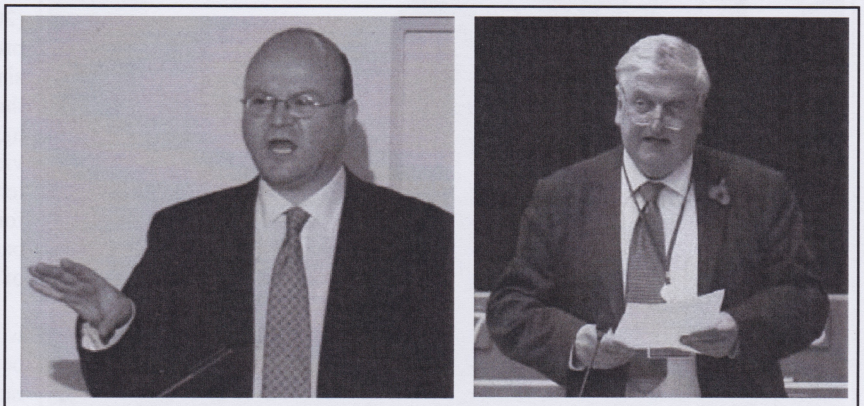
Laurence Stassen, leader of the PVV group in the European Parliament, resigned from the party in protest at her leader's "racist" comments, as did the key PVV strategist Joram van Klaveren, as well as several councillors and local officials. Perhaps most disturbing for Wilders was the warning from arch-neocon Daniel Pipes, whose American foundation has in the past paid the PVV leader's legal expenses. While acknowledging that Europeans have understandable fears about immigration, Pipes warned: "I wish that Mr Wilders went about protesting this issue in a more cautious way."

Even these mild remarks by Wilders were getting close to the neocon line that divides "good" Islamo-obsessives from "bad" racial nationalists. Marine Le Pen and other nationalist leaders tempted to concentrate their fire on Islam as a populist strategy to appear "respectable", should understand that they simply will not be allowed to transform that strategy later.

One of the world's most courageous commentators on racial issues is Jared Taylor of *American Renaissance*, whose annual conference was being held in the southern U.S. state of Tennessee as this issue of *H&D* went to press. Retiring MEP Andrew Brons, now president of the British Democratic Party, had been scheduled to speak at this event, but was informed by the U.S. Embassy that he would not be granted a visa due to his past conviction under the notoriously oppressive UK race laws.

It mattered not a jot that Mr Brons's offence was long ago, nor that his supposedly criminal conduct would have been perfectly lawful (and indeed constitutionally protected) in the U.S. Nor did it matter that Mr Brons had been elected to represent the Yorkshire and Humber region in the European Parliament, backed by more than 120,000 voters in his region.

All that mattered for the Embassy was that they had found a procedural device to obstruct a man who dared to defy the self-hating "liberal" dictatorship that controls the "Western" world – an oligarchy which in blatant contradiction of that civilisation's traditional values seeks to ensure the extinction of White culture and ultimately the White race itself.



Adrian Davies (*left*) stepped in to replace Andrew Brons MEP (*right*) as a speaker at this year's *American Renaissance* conference in Tennessee, after Brons was refused a visa to enter the USA. For further details visit www.amren.com and see a full report from the conference in the next issue of *H&D*.

Fortunately the barrister and *H&D* contributor Adrian Davies was able to step in as a last minute replacement for Mr Brons – a full report on the *AR* Conference will appear in our next issue.

As regular readers will know, the National Front is beset by yet another split and legal confrontation between two competing factions. Having (unwisely in this author's view, whatever the rights and wrongs of the matter) chosen to pursue a legal rather than political resolution of this split, the faction headed mainly by northern activists such as Kevin Bryan, Chris Jackson and Eddy Morrison tried to persuade the Electoral Commission that Mr Bryan should be recognised as NF chairman in place of West London based Ian Edward.

However the Commission came down on the side of Ian Edward, who not only remains chairman of the NF but has now replaced the pro-Bryan party treasurer Nick Walsh with his own faction's Thomas Beaney. As the Electoral Commission and its regulatory framework have only existed for just over a decade – since the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000 – this whole area of law is relatively unexplored, not least because those framing the regulations never imagined that officials of a political party would choose to resolve their differences in court. If they had read the history of the NF they would have known that this was in fact likely!

Also returning to the legal arena this year have been the BNP's Nick Griffin and Simon Darby, seeking to avoid having to pay the bills for their own folly in bringing legal actions against former BNP officials more than six years ago. Griffin and Darby lost the first stages of this case as long ago as April 2008, lost the final stage in December 2010, and lost subsequent appeals. At the start of January this year Griffin was bankrupted in Welshpool County Court following an action by his own former solicitors, whom he had failed to pay. Since then a couple of further court appearances have resulted in additional instalments being paid by Griffin and Darby: most recently Darby shelled out another £22,500 and offered a further £30,00 in full and final settlement - which was rejected. The total costs bill (in addition to Griffin and Darby's own costs) will be more than £130,000 – and with Griffin now bankrupt, the court will if necessary be able to pursue the party's assets.

On March 29th, 350 supporters of the English Defence League – now led by Tim Ablitt from Devon – held a march in Peterborough, on the edge of their last remaining active region in East Anglia. This area is also a UKIP stronghold, so not surprisingly a number of UKIP supporters marched with the EDL. Also present on the march were a number of English Democrats, including former Boston councillor Elliott Fountain, although not their deputy leader Steven Uncles who was facing criminal charges for election fraud in relation to last year's Kent County Council elections.

Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

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So if Tymoshenko's Fatherland Party isn't the problem what is the problem? The main party in the 'Right Sector Bloc' is Svoboda. To describe Svoboda as neo-nazi is generous, the Party is Nazi. I am not going to go into the history (except for one item) but for background I can suggest for a start S8 & S9 (I do not recommend the Wikipedia entries on these subjects as they appear to have been 'airbrushed' by 'friendly' editors!). I have already mentioned the Party's leader Oleh Tyahnybok stood on platforms in Kiev with various Western politicians and the party's homophobia. The party is also anti-Russian and anti-semitic. "The Party was involved in the vote of 23 Feb 2014 by the Ukrainian Parliament (Rada) repealing the previous law regarding the use of regional languages making Ukrainian the sole state language at all levels; however, this vote was vetoed by acting President Oleksandr Turchynov on March 2." (S10). Another example of anti-Russian policy from the Party was a move by a Svoboda legislator in the new Rada calling for Ukraine to start again developing its own nuclear weapons. This in a country where most people want absolutely nothing to do with any nuclear materials post-Chernobyl. The Party's deputy leader Yuri Mikhalchishin, a Svoboda ideologist, has founded a think tank called the Joseph Goebbels Political Research Centre, translated Hitler's work which he calls 'classics' and calls the Holocaust a 'bright period' in European history. (S8 & S9)

Supporters of Svoboda demonstrating in Kiev before their successful overthrow of President Viktor Yanukovych. The pig's head on a stick is probably a protest at official corruption rather than an attempt to offend Jews or Muslims!

The same sources also report the leader of Svoboda, in 2004, speaking at the graveside of a UPA commander (UPA – WWII 'Ukrainian Insurgent Army'), urging Ukrainians to fight against the "Muscovite-Jewish mafia" and lauded the World War II Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) for having fought "Muscovites, Germans, Jews and other scum who wanted to take away our Ukrainian state." Svoboda leaders and members attend reunions, funerals and memorials for UPA, OUN and Waffen SS Galicia Division. Moving forward to the present day although Svoboda holds several ministries in the interim government its followers haven't given up violence an example (S12) shows Svoboda 'activists' assaulting a Ukrainian TV boss.

I said I wasn't going to get involved in history except for one item and that was also the item that made me realise the failure of the Western media to report the 'Maidan' uprising accurately. Svoboda supporters venerate a Ukrainian Nationalist 'hero' of the Second World War, Stepan Bandera (S11). This 'war hero's' war consisted of committing genocide against Poles, Jews, Russians, Magyars, Romanians, Crimean Tartars and other minorities in the German occupied Ukraine. Not surprisingly minorities in the Ukraine today, particularly the ethnic Russians who form a substantial part of the population in Southern and Eastern Ukraine want nothing to do with a government where several ministers think Bandera is a hero! I realised that the mainstream media were hiding things when in late 2013 I saw young demonstrators in the Kiev 'Maidan' on TV marching behind banners of Bandera's face. I recognised the face and realised what this said about the real politics of the allegedly freedom loving pro EU 'demonstrators'. They were Svoboda supporters!!

The BBC/ITN/Sky commentators never said whose face was on the banners. If their reporters 'didn't know' because of lack of 'local knowledge' all they had to do was ask their Ukrainian interpreters, car drivers etc. Bandera was even awarded the title 'Hero of Ukraine' by outgoing President Yushchenko in 2010. The award was cancelled by President Yanukovych. Despite this Bandera is an 'honorary citizen' of many Ukrainian cities and their are statues, shrines etc to him all over Western Ukraine (see wikipedia 'Stepan Bandera' for a full listing !).

Having set out at some length examples showing that Right Sector/Svoboda is a fascist party the only conclusion I can come to is that the 'Western powers', EU and US were so desperate to get the Ukraine into a West leaning power bloc that they were willing to use any 'activists' that were available to overthrow a democratically elected government and let the Nationalist 'genie' out of the bottle. They are now going around trying to order an interim government currently without a democratic mandate to put the heavily armed and equipped 'genie' back in the bottle as a condition for bailout packages (Baroness Ashton has had high profile coverage in recent days – mid April – demanding that 'unauthorised groups' are disarmed etc). It is not just a case of satisfying EU/US/IMF that the problem is being solved so that bailout funds are released. There are two other parties that have to be satisfied. Minorities in the Ukraine – in particular the substantial Russian speaking minority in South and East Ukraine – have to be convinced they are dealing with an administration that has the interests of all 'Ukrainians' at heart in its governance of the country. (2001 census figures show approx 30% of Ukrainians as Russian speaking, rising to 77% in the Crimea – S10). Little that has happened recently could convince these regions that the 'interim government' is good news for their populations. The other party that has to be reassured is of course Russia.

What has this got to do with Russia some of you may be asking ? To give a comparable example just think if the Russian government spent $6 billion overthrowing the democratically elected government of Mexico by funding the drug cartels to seize power. How many 'red lines' would that cross with Obama/Kerry/Nuland?

The Russian government has every right to be concerned about a foreign-financed and supported 'regime change' on its border, particularly as the 'outgoing regime' was a democratically elected government with which Russia had friendly relations.

In presenting this overview I am of course presenting my own opinions and have included a list of sources so that readers who wish to check the factual bases for my statements can do so. The sources list is only a starter list. Of course my overview is different from that being presented in most Western publications but I still (currently) have the right to present my own research and interpretation.

Ivan Winters, Bradford, Yorkshire

Sources :

S1. http://www.infowars.com/us-and-eu-are-paying-ukrainian-rioters-and-protesters/ (infowars can be a disputed source).
S2. http://eureferendum.com/blogview.aspx?blogno=84781 (Dr Richard North's blog is interesting reading and a very accurate source).
S3. http://www.dcclothesline.com/2014/03/01/us-backed-neo-nazi-party-given-key-roles-ukrainian-government/ (author of this article is involved with infowars – includes some good pictures)
S4. http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article37599.htm (can be a very useful source)
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